



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

14 November 2021

1 Samuel 1:4-20 (NIV)

⁴Whenever the day came for Elkanah to sacrifice, he would give portions of the meat to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters. ⁵But to Hannah he gave a double portion because he loved her, and the LORD had closed her womb. ⁶Because the LORD had closed Hannah's womb, her rival kept provoking her in order to irritate her. ⁷This went on year after year. Whenever Hannah went up to the house of the LORD, her rival provoked her till she wept and would not eat. ⁸Her husband Elkanah would say to her, "Hannah, why are you weeping? Why don't you eat? Why are you downhearted? Don't I mean more to you than ten sons?" ⁹Once when they had finished eating and drinking in Shiloh, Hannah stood up. Now Eli the priest was sitting on his chair by the doorpost of the LORD's house. ¹⁰In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the LORD, weeping bitterly.

¹¹And she made a vow, saying, "LORD Almighty, if you will only look on your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the LORD for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head." ¹²As she kept on praying to the LORD, Eli observed her mouth. ¹³Hannah was praying in her heart, and her lips were moving but her voice was not heard. Eli thought she was drunk ¹⁴and said to her, "How long are you going to stay drunk? Put away your wine." ¹⁵"Not so, my lord," Hannah replied, "I am a woman who is deeply troubled. I have not been drinking wine or beer; I was pouring out my soul to the Lord. ¹⁶Do not take your servant for a wicked woman; I have been praying here out of my great anguish and grief." ¹⁷Eli answered, "Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of him." ¹⁸She said, "May your servant find favor in your eyes." Then she went her way and ate something, and her face was no longer downcast. ¹⁹Early the next morning they arose and worshiped before the LORD and then went back to their home at Ramah. Elkanah made love to his wife Hannah, and the Lord remembered her. ²⁰So in the course of time Hannah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, saying, "Because I asked the LORD for him."

1 Samuel 2:1-10 (NIV)

The Destruction of the Temple and Signs of the End Times

¹³As Jesus was leaving the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher! What massive stones! What magnificent buildings!"

²"Do you see all these great buildings?" replied Jesus. "Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down."

³As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John and Andrew asked him privately,

⁴"Tell us, when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are all about to be fulfilled?"

⁵Jesus said to them: "Watch out that no one deceives you.

⁶Many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and will deceive many.

⁷When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come.

⁸Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places, and famines. These are the beginning of birth pains.

CHURCH SERVICES 21ST NOVEMBER

Church will recommence with a combined service and church council meeting at West Tamworth.



We will be discussing the Tamworth Uniting Church Combines statement. This statement is to be included in the joint Parish Profile to be forwarded to Synod, with the hope of ensuring that two ministers are appointed to Tamworth in the near future.

The statement is attached to this newsletter. It would be appreciated if you could come along ready to discuss this.

"Virtually nothing is impossible in this world if you just put your mind to it and maintain a positive attitude." ~ Lou Holtz



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for the future of the Uniting Church in Tamworth
- We give thanks for past leaders, both lay and ordained.
- We pray for students who are sitting for the Higher School Certificate.
- We pray for the health of each member of our congregation.



Samuel 1:4-20, Samuel 2:1-10:

This is another interesting Old Testament story about a woman. If ever a story pointed to the downside of polygamy, this story is it.

Hannah and Peninnah were both wives of Elkanah. Peninnah had several children, but Hannah had none.

Peninnah chose to make life miserable for Hannah, taunting her over her inability to have a child. Hannah felt this taunting and humiliation deeply.

It seems that Elkanah tried to cheer Hannah up, but did little to prevent Peninnah from making Hannah's life miserable.

In her sadness, Hannah was perceived by Eli as being an out of control drunk when she was really deep in prayer to God.

Hannah wanted a child so much that she seems to have "done a deal" with God. If He gave her a child, she would then hand the child over to serve in the Tabernacle his whole life long.

Hannah's child, Samuel, went on to be a strong influence in Israel for many years.

God was able to use Hannah's longing for motherhood for the good of His people.

Are we open to be used by God as Hannah was?

Blessings from Meg



**My face in the mirror isn't wrinkled
or drawn;**

**My house isn't dirty the cobwebs
are gone.**

**My garden looks lovely and so does
my lawn;**

**I think I might never put my glasses
back on!**



Hebrews 10:11-25 (NIV)

¹¹ Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins.

¹² But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ and since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool.

¹⁴ For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

¹⁵ The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this.

First he says:

¹⁶ "This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord.

I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds."

¹⁷ Then he adds:

"Their sins and lawless acts
I will remember no more."

¹⁸ And where these have been forgiven, sacrifice for sin is no longer necessary.

A Call to Persevere in Faith

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

"Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow." ~ Melody Beattie

PEEL VALLEY CONGREGATION

Our goal: "To be transformed communities, experiencing, enjoying & sharing the gift of the friendship of Jesus."

Mission: "Called to be Free, Gifted to Serve."

Pastoral Care: **Meg Mangan 0476 375 989**

Elders: Margaret Crowell Ross Davidson Bruce Jarrett



.... enjoy & share the gift of the friendship of Jesus