EPISODE NO. 118

1 Sam. 1:9b-19a

Hannah, a Barren Woman

Hannah was a good woman, but she could NOT have a baby. 9 In Shiloh, near the entrance to Yahweh's Holy Tent, Eli the high priest was sitting on a chair. 10 Hannah was very sad. She was crying. She prayed to Yahweh. 11 She made a vow. She said, "O Yahweh of the armies of heaven, surely You can see that I am absolutely miserable?! Remember me! Don't forget me! If You will only give me a son, then I will donate him back to You for his entire life! And, no one will ever cut his hair (because he will be a Nazarite)!

12 While Hannah kept on praying in the presence of Yahweh, Eli watched her mouth moving. 13 (Hannah was praying silently in her heart. Only her lips moved; her voice was NOT heard.) So, Eli thought she was drunk. 14 He said to her, "Stop getting drunk! Get rid of your wine!"

15 Hannah answered, "Not so, my lord. I have not consumed any wine or beer! I am just a woman who is deeply troubled. I was only telling Yahweh about all of my problems. 16 Don't think of me as an evil woman. All along, I have been praying because of my many troubles and my grief!"

17 Eli answered, "Then go in peace! May the God of Israel give you whatever you asked of Him!"

18 Hannah said, "I want to be pleasing to you." Then she left and ate something. She was NOT sad anymore. 19 Early in the morning, Elkanah (her husband) got up and worshiped in the presence of Yahweh. Then they returned home to Ramah.