



# FROM THE DEPTH OF MY HEART...

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Dearly Beloved of God,

Greetings in the mighty name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

What a joy to celebrate God's faithfulness together in the last month of this year 2014. God did mighty things in our Holy Ghost Explosion seminars in Theni, Hyderabad, Bhopal and Pune. For our last two seminars, people came from many states of North India. All were touched and healed by the Holy Spirit. God opened their eyes to see what they have inside of them. He also challenged them to do a powerful miracle ministry. God restored many people's lives and ministries. Many are calling and testifying that they had never heard such revelations and never enjoyed such anointing in their lives before. We give all the glory to God who made these seminars a success for His eternal Kingdom.

At present, we have 177 precious ladies from ten different states of India and from Sri Lanka for our 6<sup>th</sup> batch of the School of the Holy Spirit for Ladies (L-SOHS). We experienced powerful mass deliverances and many inner healings. The strongholds satan was building in their minds were destroyed by Jesus Christ, the living Truth. By God's grace, all students are experiencing a deep work of the Holy Spirit in their lives and enjoying days of heaven on earth. Pray that every one of them may go from here totally liberated in spirit, soul and body and do a powerful work for Jesus in their respective places.

Our next 40 days School of the Holy Spirit for Men and Couples will be held from January 19<sup>th</sup> to February 27<sup>th</sup> 2015. We organized this school specially for senior ministers who cannot leave their responsibilities for full three month. If you have a desire to enter another level of anointing and ministry, this school is for you. You will definitely see a greater level of glory in your ministry after attending the school.

Our Apostles and Prophets seminar is from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of February. If you are an apostle or a prophet or you have a calling to become an apostle or prophet, this seminar is for you. Come and be blessed.

We are praying and planning for the next phase of our building. God has promised to give the best professionals to work with us for His Kingdom. Pray and be a part of it. Continue also to pray for our TV studio and the New Testament commentary work.

From 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> December, we will have our Prayer Conference in our Poondi Campsite. This conference is open for all. Our nations need our prayer like never before. The spirit of prayer and intercession will be

released from your life and change your nations.

You, the new creation, have enough light in you to lighten the entire universe. You are truly the light of the world (Mt.5:14)! You can dispel darkness wherever you find it! You bring light to your home and to your entire world. The darkness around you, no matter how dense it may be, can never overpower you or dim your light even a bit! Don't sit and wail over the darkness or the powers of darkness. Simply rise up to your position and rebuke all works of darkness (Eph.5:11). Tend your light through prayer and praise! Design your life according to God's Word! Fill your life with the Holy Spirit and SHINE!

Remember our families, counselors, leaders, and office staff in Poondi and our Chennai Headquarters in your prayers. May the Lord use you mightily in this End Time harvest and empower you to face all your challenges victoriously. We wish you a very joyful and happy Christmas!

Your brother in Christ,



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# *CURE FOR UNBELIEF*

**Dr. Ezekiah Francis**

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We have seen the horror of unbelief in our previous article. We saw how unbelief imprisons you to the earthly realm, make you powerless, rob you of your supernatural lifestyle, make you fearful and insults God, forget the past miracles and makes you doubtful, makes you weak and fragile in your spiritual battle. God hates unbelief and calls us to fight with this deadly sin of doubt and unbelief. This is the only way to overcome the world, the flesh and demonic assaults in this end times. In this article we will learn some of antidotes for unbelief from the teachings of our Lord Jesus.

## **Know who you are in Christ**

Lack of knowledge in who you are in Christ is the mother of all unbelief and doubt. Low image breeds low level of faith in God. If you want to exercise God kind of faith you have to constantly increase the knowledge of who you are in Christ, what Christ has done for you on the cross and What He is doing in and through you. When Jesus rebuked His disciples of their little faith, He said do not worry about your life... look at the birds of the air... your Heavenly Father feeds them, are you not of more value than they...consider the lilies of the field... If God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you. Oh! You of little faith?... your Heavenly Father knows that you need all these things (Mt.6:25-34). In the whole passage, He tries to tell His disciples that they are more valuable than the birds and the lilies. Yes, if you

know your value to God, your unbelief will fly away. All your doubts and unbelief will flee away. You are the most precious son and daughter to your Heavenly Father. He cares for every minute details of your life and meet all your needs. You are a darling child of your Heavenly Father. You are more precious and valuable to Him. He gave His only begotten Son to die in your place.

He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? (Ro.8:32) Your Father loves you, as He loved His own Son Jesus Christ. You are God's dwelling place. You are His holy temple. You are the bride of Christ. You are His body. You are the flesh of His flesh and of the bone of His bones. You are totally a new creation. All God's authority is delegated to you. This is the good news of the New Covenant. Start meditating the New Testament and find out who you are in Christ. Everything you ever need in life is freely given to you because of your union with Christ. The more you meditate these truths, the more your faith will grow like mountain and demolish all the trace of unbelief and doubt from your life.

"...that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus (Philemon 6)." Every good thing from God is heaped up in Christ for you. When you are united with Christ all the blessings are transferred to you. Acknowledge it. Appreciate it. Constantly meditate it. Mutter it. This is the way to make your faith effective and to destroy the power of unbelief.

Some years ago the Lord commissioned me to write a daily devotion from Genesis to Revelation on who you are in Christ. This will greatly assist you to build your faith and combat unbelief utterly from you. Read books and listen messages of who you are in Christ.

### **Know your God**

Another way to overcome unbelief is to know your God intimately and experientially. When you know who is your God you become bold like a lion. Knowledge of your God dispels all fears and doubts. That's why Jesus repeatedly talks about the Heavenly benevolent Father who feeds even His little creatures and clothes beautifully the withering flowers and grass of the field. He repeatedly assures us of the care of our Heavenly Father.

Truly the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits (Dan.11:32). You can never be strong when there is a trace of unbelief in you. You can do mighty and great exploits for God once when you kick out the demon of doubt and unbelief. This is very much possible when you know your God. God's grace and God's peace will be multiplied to you in the knowledge of your God and Savior Jesus Christ (2.Pe.1:2). God's grace and His peace is more than enough for you to win the battle with unbelief. God's divine power has already given you ALL things that pertain to your life and godliness. That power works through your knowledge of your God (2.Pe.1:2,3). The very eternal life you receive came by your knowledge of God (Jn.17:3). Do you remember why the disciples screamed in terror and woke Jesus from His sleep when there was a great wind storm? They had very little knowledge of Jesus at that time. That's why they cried, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?". They saw Him as a teacher, not as the Master of the nature. They didn't know the care of their loving Savior. When He calmed the storm, they said to one another, "Who can this be that even the wind and the sea

obey Him?" (Mk.4:35-41). Do you see their poor knowledge of God?

Beloved, God is looking for faith people, daredevil people. The world will run to the men and women of faith who receives answer for their prayers and do exploits. I urge you earnestly to start meditating on God's attributes and His power. Spend time with His Word and know Him intimately. The way you know God decides the level of your miracles. As long as you see Him only as a teacher, your knowledge of the Word will increase but not the miracles. When you know God as a miracle worker you will begin to enter the miracle realms of God. When you know your God as great Jehovah Rapha the mighty Healer, you will begin to see healing miracles in and through you. Meditate on healing from the scriptures. Closely observe how Jesus heals the sick. Teach and preach on healing. This is the way to unleash the healing miracles in your ministry.

When you see God as your Jehovah Jireh, the one who supplies all your needs, you will experience the abundance of financial release. God is telling you right now, as my people recognize me, I will manifest myself to them. Recognize Him as your Healer. Recognize Him as a wonder worker. Know Him as God of peace. Rejoice in your heavenly Father and resist the spirit of fear and unbelief with all your might in Jesus name.

Know your Savior as Author and Finisher of your faith. He is the one who inaugurated your faith life. He is growing your faith day by day through His word and presence. He will complete your faith victoriously. Focus your entire attention to your Savior and grow your faith (Heb.12:2).

The blessed Holy Ghost is also the Spirit of faith. When you are full of Him, you are full of His faith. And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke, we also believe and therefore speak". (2.Cor.4:13).

Your inner man is a faith man. The Holy



Ghost upon you is the Spirit of faith. Your Savior is the Author and Finisher of your faith. God's Word is the builder of your faith. Why should you suffer from unbelief anymore?

### **Know the Word power**

Jesus commended the faith of centurion as great faith. How did this gentile centurion operate such great faith? As an army officer he knew the power of the authoritative word. He can command his soldiers to go and they will go. He command someone to come, he will come. If he commands someone to do something, he will do. As an officer he knew the power of his word. So it was easy for him to believe the power of Jesus Word. He saw His authority over demons and diseases. So he said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed" (Mt.8:8).

Word faith is great faith to Jesus. Acting on God's word is the highest level of faith. Praising God for every promises of God releases the performance. Jesus simply said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you" And his servant was healed that same hour (Mt.8:13). See the power of God's Word.

The Word of God has the power in itself to produce faith and the miracles. The more you meditate the Word and mutter it, your faith is multiplied. Unbelief automatically removes from you. Gospel is the power of God unto salvation, deliverance, healing, prosperity and wholeness (Ro.10:17). So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Faith comes by hearing and hearing and keep on hearing the Word of God. When you are full of God's Word, you are full of faith. When you are full of faith, where is the place for unbelief? Every day Word is the secret of every day wonder. Try it.

Another good news. God's faith is already living in your spirit. With that faith you can overcome all your struggles, win all your enemies and heal all your sicknesses and get all your

wealth. For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith (Ro.12:3)

God has given you a measure of faith which is more than enough to handle all your struggles and remove all your mountains. With the faith you have, you can change your circumstances and transform the people around you.

### **Know the power of prayer and fasting**

Prayer and fasting is the mighty weapon to cast out the spirit of unbelief. Lack of deep communion with God withers your faith. When the disciples asked Jesus privately, why could we not cast it out? So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting" (Mt.17:20, 21).

See how Jesus connects unbelief and prayer life! First He said because of their unbelief they could not cast out strong demon. The mountain moving faith is the only way to cast out such demons. Immediately He said this kind of demons will not go except by prayer and fasting. What does it mean? Life of prayer and fellowship with God casts out the spirit of unbelief and releases the mountain moving faith. Such a faith can destroy the power of the enemy and set the captives free. Regular fasting definitely helps our faith life. Sometimes the Spirit of God leads us for prolonged fasting also as He led Jesus in the wilderness. People who obeyed such bidding of the spirit exercised enormous authority over demons and healed many insane people. Mighty men of faith like John G. Lake and Smith Wigglesworth are good examples of such authority.

Another best cure for unbelief is praying in the Holy Spirit. But you, beloved, building your-

selves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit (Jude 20). Build yourself up on your most holy faith by praying in the Holy Spirit. Remember Jesus said, speaking with new language is the one of the signs of those who believe (Mk.16:16, 17).

Paul spoke in tongues more than his entire congregation and he was thankful to God for it (1.Cor.14:17). When you pray in tongues you will drive out the spirit of unbelief. Develop intimate fellowship with God. Enjoy His love. Live in the spirit. Pray in the spirit. Build up your faith from today.

### Know the power of forgiveness

God has ordained forgiveness as one of the main faith builder. The more you forgive people, the more your faith begins to manifest. There is a definite connection between faith and forgiveness. Forgiveness flourishes faith and failure to

forgive feeds your unbelief.

No matter how much you read and pray and confess positively, your faith can never grow if you refuse to forgive in your heart. You will struck in one faith level without going from faith to faith and glory to glory.

When Jesus was teaching His disciples about the God kind of faith that moves mountains, He immediately connected it with the subject of forgiveness. Closely observe these words.

For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them. And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in

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heaven may also forgive you your trespasses (Mk.11:23-25).

Here Jesus was talking about the impartation of God's faith in the human heart. When that faith manifest in our hearts we will speak boldly to the mountains and will not have even an atom of doubt in our hearts. When such faith is in operation, we will have whatever we say. When we stand to pray in such supernatural faith, we are commanded by our master to check our hearts if we have anything against any one and forgive him immediately. Whenever heart is bitter we cannot exercise mountain moving faith. Grudge in our hearts will paralyze our faith life. The moment we forgive, the force of faith is released. Remember your faith works only through love for in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love (Ga.5:6).

It is impossible to win the battle of unbelief without walking in love. When you walk in love, you believe all things (1.Cor.13:7). When you fail to walk in love, you doubt all things. We have declared war against unbelief and doubt. This includes our war against all grudges and bitterness.

### **Know the power of praise and thanksgiving**

Giving thanks before the answer is a sure way to dispel doubts and unbelief. Supernatural faith can manifest in the atmosphere of supernatural singing and praise. Jesus thanked His father in front of the hungry multitudes with five loaves and two fishes in His hands. When He gave thanks, He had supernatural courage to distribute the bread and it kept growing and growing. And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted (Jn.6:11). however, other boats came from Tiberias, near the place where they ate bread after the Lord had given thanks (Jn.6:23).

John the beloved was so impressed by His Savior's thanksgiving even he named that place as the place where the Lord had given thanks. Truly when you raise your voice and thank the Lord with the bottom of your heart, miracle faith is mightily released.

John the closest disciple of Jesus once again remembers the power of thanksgiving before the stinking corps of Lazarus. Just before commanding the dead Lazarus to come out, Jesus publicly thanked His Father for the resurrection miracle. When He began to thank God, the faith of God began to rise up and the enemy of death and unbelief flood away before the entire crowd. Do you need a miracle today? If you believe you will see the glory of God. To release your precious faith, you release praise and worship. You will see the power of resurrection through the power of your rejoicing with thankfulness.

### **Know the power of proclamation**

Another great remedy for unbelief is to boldly proclaim God's Word before the mountain of unbelief. The Word of God in your heart must become audible through your mouth. Majority of believers today don't avail this power of proclamation. God's Word in your mouth has the same power like God's Word in God's mouth. This is the secret of your Saviors victory over Satan. Every time the devil brought Him a temptation, He triumphed over him through proclaiming what is written in the scriptures. The words that you speak boldly becomes the mighty sword in the hand of the Holy Spirit. Devil constantly speaks unbelief and doubt and bombard our minds. The best way to silence the lies of the devil is to speak the truth of God's Word. We have seen before the Spirit of God is the Spirit of faith. Spirit of faith inspires and enables you to speak the Words of faith and since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak (2.Cor.4:13).

Heart faith always becomes mouth faith. What you believe, you speak. You can never

overcome unbelief when you constantly speak the words of unbelief and doubt. The devil will try his best to tempt you to speak unbelief and annuls your supernatural faith. Resist him with the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God (Eph.6:17). Right now make a strong decision before God that you will speak only what you believe in your heart, not what you see, hear or feel in your senses.

God's Spirit and God's Words are in your heart. Speak it! God's calling is in your spirit. Speak it! God's Word is in your Spirit. Speak it. Do you believe in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed? (Ge.12:7). Then speak it. Do you believe God will make you the head, not the tail, you shall be above only and not be beneath? (Dt.28:13). Speak it! Do you believe your Lord Jesus Christ became poor to make you rich? (2.Cor.8:9) Speak it! Do you believe you will lend to many nations and you shall not borrow?

(Dt.28:12).Speak it! Do you believe out of your heart shall flow the rivers of God's living waters and heal the multitudes? (Jn.7:38). Speak it! Do you believe you have authority over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you? (Lk.10:19). Speak it! Do you believe the mighty Christ is living in you as the hope of glory? (Co.1:27). Speak it! Do you believe the Spirit of the Lord God is upon you and He has anointed you to preach the gospel, to heal the broken hearts, to proclaim liberty to the captives and to recover the sight to the blind and to liberate those who are oppressed? (Lk.4:18).Speak It. Do you believe all the promises of God in Christ Jesus are yes and amen to you? (2.Cor.1:20). Speak it! Do you believe you and all your household will serve the Lord (Josh.24:15)? Speak it! Keep believing, keep speaking.

## EXPLORE THE BIBLE

- 1.How should you love a neighbor?
  - 2.Is it true that Paul wrote that the creation was made visible so that God's power is understood and that there is no excuse?
  - 3.The book of Romans explains that through Adam's one transgression, all person inherited death. What one act occurred that offered justification of life to all people?
  - 4.Did Paul write that we died to the law through the body of Christ?
  - 5.Did Paul believe that the Gentiles were better than the Jews?
  - 6.Paul says to feed enemies if they are hungry and give them drink if they are thirsty, for in doing so this, what will be heaped upon their heads?
  - 7.Which apostle was the author of Romans?
  - 8.Who were the recipients of the epistle to the Romans?
  - 9.Paul hopes for a prosperous journey to \_\_\_\_\_?
  - 10.Who is more righteous?
- (Hint: The Book of Romans)



# SUICIDE

- Part 4

**Rev. Benita Francis**

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## **Hannah**

Dear family of God, we are still studying a subject of extreme importance in our world today. Unfortunately, it has become an issue even inside the Church, the glorious Body of Jesus Christ which is supposed to give life, joy and hope to the world. Yet instead of that, a growing number of believers and even ministers find themselves in a state of depression, some even to the extent of requiring medication and medical care. What a tragedy!

Satan, the murderer from the beginning, seems to be working overtime to destroy as many lives as possible (Jn.8:44). Of course, his greatest joy and victory is when he succeeds in inducing people to take their own lives instead of having to take the trouble of murdering them. To this end, he is working tirelessly on people's minds - and most probably even on yours!

Let me ask you. How do you see your life? How do you see your situation? Does everything seem bleak and boring to you? Do you feel there is no hope, no sense in staying alive? Do you sometimes play with the thought that you would be better off dead? Let me introduce you to someone who had all the right reasons to feel like that.

**1 Now there was a certain man... his name was Elkanah...**

**2 And he had two wives: the name of one was Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah (1.Sa.1:1-2)**

Hannah was one of the two wives of her husband. As you can imagine, this is a situation that is in itself very difficult to endure. Here in India, I am repeatedly faced with this problem and know the tremendous heartache it causes. In our Western nations that were founded on Biblical principles, however, such constellations are very easy to solve. There is only one legally acknowledged wife for each man. This wife enjoys many social, juridical and monetary benefits because of her status as wife. The other woman would be the lover or concubine, despised by society as a woman who tries to destroy a home, and without any rights or status. In case the husband decides to divorce his wife and marry his lover, he has to support his wife and children lifelong. Yet even in midst of all this social and financial security, the emotional pain of being a rejected wife still drives many women into alcoholism, addictions to drugs or medication or even suicide.

Now imagine two women living together under the same roof, "sharing" the husband! What a constant stress of competition. What a constant fear of losing the husband to the other woman. What a constant threat of being cast out in case the other woman succeeds in turning the husband's

heart against her. What a constant emotional torture! Is such a life worth living? Isn't such a constant torment reason enough for throwing away her life? Think about it...

What would have happened if Hannah had thrown away her life? She would have lost the loving support of her husband who loved her more than the other woman. She would have brought tremendous shock, pain and heartache to Elkanah. She would have slipped into eternal oblivion instead of becoming a faith hero people from all over the earth admire and imitate for centuries. What a loss!

**... Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children (1.Sa.1:2)**

Yet this explosive family setup was not her only problem. Hannah was barren whereas Peninnah, Elkanah's other wife, had children. Imagine the daily torture of seeing Peninnah's children laugh, play, grow up and bring joy to the man Hannah loved while her own womb remained fruitless. Imagine the tension of attempting to conceive. Imagine the disappointment month after month. Imagine the self-condemnation and daily frustration. Imagine the doubt and hidden anger even against God as her prayers went unanswered for years. Isn't such a constant torment reason enough for throwing away her life? Think about it...

What would have happened if Hannah had thrown away her life? She would have forever lost her opportunity of receiving her miracle. She would have been called a failure, a frustrated, defeated woman who was unable to accept her life and fulfill her duties. She would never have been able to remove the shame and curse of barrenness. Her memory would have been marred forever. What a loss!

**6 And her rival also provoked her severely, to make her miserable, because the LORD had closed her womb (1.Sa.1:6)**

All the above in itself was definitely

painful enough, but it was still not the peak of Hannah's heartbreaking situation. Can you imagine having to live under the same roof with a cruel rival every day of your life? Can you imagine the terrible realization that there can be no escape from this harassment until one of them died? Can you imagine somebody mocking and making fun of the very thing that is breaking your heart every day already? Isn't such a constant torment reason enough for throwing away her life? Think about it...

What would have happened if Hannah had thrown away her life? Hannah would have broken the heart of the man who loved her so deeply although she couldn't bear him children. Her rival would have rejoiced and triumphed! I can almost hear her demonic laughter... How she would have celebrated the fact that her hell-inspired strategies had worked out so well for her. How she would have used the grief of Elkanah to win him for herself. Think about it! Do you really want to allow evil to win and triumph over good? The evil devil over the good God???

**7 So it was, year by year, when she went up to the house of the LORD, that she provoked her; therefore she wept and did not eat (1.Sa.1:7)**

As you can see here, this situation was not just for a short time. This human tragedy went on for years and years, without anyone to turn to, without anyone to help her out of her desperation. We don't see any indication that Hannah had some promise from God to hold on to for all these years. The heavens seemed to be made of bronze. All her faithful journeys to the House of God and all the sacrifices she brought only caused more pain and disappointment. And yet she went up to sacrifice year after year. You can see her beautiful prayer in verses 10 to 16. There is absolutely no complaint, no accusation, no demanding attitude. There is only humility and a deep dedication to God. Imagine promising to give the child she so desperately desired away to serve in God's Temple and

seeing him only once a year! What a commendable woman!

Hannah decided that even if she would receive the desire of her heart, she would give that son away to serve God. Again her situation would be the same of loneliness, having to watch her rival's children grow up and missing her own son every day of her life. Isn't such a constant torment reason enough for throwing away her life? Think about it...


What would have happened if Hannah had thrown away her life? All her years of sufferings and patience would have been simply wasted. She would have never experienced that God is good and that He hears the plea of the afflicted. She would have wasted the opportunity to bless and encourage others and rejoice together with them in her answered prayer. She would have never conceived. She would have never born children. She would have missed her miracle. What a loss!

**13 Now Hannah spoke in her heart; only**




**her lips moved, but her voice was not heard. Therefore Eli thought she was drunk.**

**14 So Eli said to her, "How long will you be drunk? Put your wine away from you!" (1.Sa.1:13-14)**

Yet all of this was still not enough. Picture the situation. Hannah had wept in anguish and bitterness of soul before God. As a woman of sorrowful spirit, she poured out her soul before the LORD. What was her reward? Adding to all her pain she received the rebuke, condemnation and lack of understanding of the priest Eli, God's only representative the Israelites could look up to. For Hannah, such a word from Eli would have meant a total rejection by God Himself. What a shock! What a pain! Her only hope, the God she trusted in, could misunderstand her in such a cruel way! Would you not have concluded that God did not care for you at all? That He didn't listen to your prayers and fastings, and yes, that most probably He would have never listened all these years? Isn't such a shocking discovery reason enough for



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throwing away her life? Think about it...

What would have happened if Hannah had thrown away her life? She would have definitely rejected God completely and gone to eternal hell. Not only she, even her faith and her God would have been blamed and misrepresented. Many would have turned away from their faith, hearing the outcome of her years of faith and trust in God. Unintentionally, she would have become a stumbling block for the faith of many others. What a loss!

Yet praise God, there is another end to this story. Hannah's humility earned her the blessing of this not so very spiritual priest. Her faith laid hold of the promise, and her countenance was no longer sad. In midst of the very same situation, Hannah was a totally transformed woman. As soon as they returned home, Hannah conceived and bore a son, the first of her four sons and two daughters. Hannah fulfilled her promise, brought him to the temple and dedicated him to the God who had answered her prayers. She was rewarded with the great privilege of being the mother of the founder of the first prophetic movement in human history.

What would have happened if Hannah had thrown away her life? Satan would have succeeded in his attempts to snatch out God's plans before they could be established. Samuel, the great prophet of Israel, would have never been born.

Can you see the seriousness of suicide? Taking your own life before your God-established time can seriously thwart God's eternal purposes not only for your life but for all humanity. You are not just a cosmic accident. You were sent to this earth by God with a very definite, distinct purpose and mission. How can you just run away from your future? How can you allow temporary sufferings to abort eternal destinies?

No matter how dark your life may look today, let me tell you: AS LONG AS THERE IS LIFE, THERE IS HOPE. Your God can turn your mourning to dancing in the spur of a moment (Ps.30:11). Instead of your shame, you will have double honor (Isa.61:7). You shall no longer be termed forsaken, nor shall your land any more be termed desolate; but you shall be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married (Isa.62:4). Cast out the spirit of depression with a song! Put on your garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness! Receive the oil of joy for mourning! Enjoy beauty for ashes (Isa.61:3)! Rejoice!!! And LIVE!!!

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