

A WORD ON WORSHIP

REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM MAY 10, 2015

BY PASTOR ANDREW KICKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hear Sunday Sermons at www.SunriseTC.org

1 Samuel 1:9-11

“Then Hannah rose after eating and drinking in Shiloh. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat by the doorpost of the temple of the Lord. She, greatly distressed, prayed to the Lord and wept bitterly. She made a vow and said, “O Lord of hosts, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your maidservant and remember me, and not forget Your maidservant, but will give Your maidservant a son, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life, and a razor shall never come on his head.”



Hannah's story is one of perseverance through adversity. Hannah was a great woman, the mother of Samuel, one of Israel's outstanding prophets. Had it not been for her agony and the adversity in her life, the birth of her first child would soon have been forgotten. But her years of agony and her tears of distress make the birth of her son Samuel an incident to be remembered. They form the backdrop for her psalm of praise, which has become a comfort and inspiration to saints down through the ages.

Unlike Peninnah, Hannah had the biblical perspective of the goal of motherhood. The biblical perspective sees children as stewardships, gifts from the Lord to be returned to Him. It's the perspective of preparing children to become servants of God rather than servants of themselves, the parents, or the world. One of the great lessons of this passage is the value of godly mothers, mothers who are devoted to raising their children to know the Lord and who are willing to give their children to God and His service in accord with God's will for their children.

Hannah's psalm could not have been written without the suffering which precedes it. It is God who closes Hannah's womb. It is God who purposes for her to suffer at the hand of her cruel counterpart, Peninnah. It is God who orchestrates all of the painful and pleasant events in Hannah's life, so that the resulting psalm could become the masterpiece it is. This is the way God employs the human and the divine in the writing of all the Scriptures. While you and I do not write Scripture today, I believe God orchestrates our background and our lives in a way which uniquely prepares and equips us for the ministry He has for us. Let us refuse to see our past difficulties as hindrances to the present or the future. As we look back upon the painful memories of our past, let us look upon them as the foundation stones for our present and future ministry, and then let us rejoice in our tribulations and trials in light of the way God purposes to use them for our good and for His glory.

As Paul makes so clear in his epistles, God's power is demonstrated at the point of our weaknesses. That is grace. God's grace does not seek out our strong points and enhance them, so much as His grace seeks out our weakest points so that it may be absolutely clear to all that it is God who accomplishes great things through us. Those things which cause Hannah the greatest sorrow, the greatest pain, are the very things God uses to produce Hannah's greatest joys. For those who trust in Him, it will always be this way.

Sunrise Community Church
Come acknowledge the Lord in our midst
EVERY SUNDAY BEGINNING AT 8:45 A.M.

9642 Live Oak Ave. • Temple City, CA 91780
 (626) 287-6120 • PastorAndy@SunriseTC.org • www.SunriseTC.org

The Hymns We Sing

COURTESY OF THE CYBER HYMNAL™

<http://www.hymntime.com/>

God Will Take Care Of You

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/g/wi/gwiltake.htm>

http://www.hymntime.com/tch/mid/g/o/d/God_will_take_care_of_you.mid

"You may ask Me for anything in My name, and I will do it."
John 14:13

Words: *Civilla D. Martin* (1866-1948), 1904; first appeared in *Songs of Redemption and Praise*, by John A. Davis, 1905.

Music: *W. Stillman Martin* (1862-1935)

"I was confined to a sick bed in a Bible school in Lestershire [now Johnson City], New York. My husband was spending several weeks at the school, making a songbook for the president of the school. God Will Take Care of You was written one Sunday afternoon while my husband went to a preaching appointment. When he returned I gave the words to him. He immediately sat down to his little Bilhorn organ and wrote the music. That evening he and two of the teachers sang the completed song. It was then printed in the songbook he was compiling for the school." – *Civilla D. Martin*

This song is credited for transforming the life of **James Cash Penney**, founder of the American department store chain J. C. Penney. He heard it one morning in the chapel of the Kellogg Sanitarium in Battle Creek, Michigan, where he had been hospitalized with a severe case of shingles, as well as exhaustion and depression.

Be not dismayed whate'er betide,
God will take care of you;
Beneath His wings of love abide,
God will take care of you.

Refrain

God will take care of you,
Through every day, over all the way;
He will take care of you,
God will take care of you.

Through days of toil when heart doth fail,
God will take care of you;
When dangers fierce your path assail,
God will take care of you.

Refrain

All you may need He will provide,
God will take care of you;
Nothing you ask will be denied,
God will take care of you.

Refrain

No matter what may be the test,
God will take care of you;
Lean, weary one, upon His breast,
God will take care of you.

Refrain

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SUNRISE May 2015

May 10	8:45AM	<i>The Mother Who Gave Away Her Son</i> 1st Samuel 1 & 2
	10:30 AM	No Second Hour - Mother's Day
May 12	7:00 PM	Bible Study at the Kikkert's
May 15	7:00 PM	Game Night
May 17	8:45AM	<i>The Man Who Saw the Unseen</i> , 2nd Kings 6:8-23
	10:30 AM	Second Hour
May 19	7:00 PM	Bible Study at the Kikkert's
May 22	6:30 PM	Friday Night Fellowship
May 24	8:45 AM	Thom Rachford Preaching
	10:30 AM	Second Hour
May 26	7:00 PM	Bible Study at the Kikkert's
May 29		No Friday Night Activities
May 31	8:45AM	<i>The Man Who Won a War Without Fighting</i> 2nd Chronicles 20
	10:30 AM	Second Hour
June 2	7:00 PM	Bible Study at the Kikkert's
June 5	7:00 PM	Game Night
June 7	8:45AM	<i>The Man Who Cried for God to Come Down</i> Isaiah 63 & 64
	10:30 AM	Second Hour



Humanities professor gives Christian student zeroes for rejecting his anti-Christian teachings

[HTTP://CHRISTIANNEWS.NET/](http://christiannews.net/)

WINTER HAVEN, Fla. - Grace Lewis, 16, a dual-enrolled student enrolled in Polk State College's virtual school from home who was maintaining a 3.9 grade average, was given four straight zeros in her humanities class by Professor Lance "L.J." Russum for being unwilling to address his assignments about Christianity in the way that he wanted - which she believed was anti-theological to, and hostile to, her faith.

"[T]he questions assigned are not open-minded questions," one of the assignments explained. "They instead are designed to lead course participants decisively to accept that Christianity is false and oppressive of women."

Other assignments asked students to outline Protestant reformer Martin Luther's work as a "humanist," and another asserted that the sculptures and paintings of the Roman Catholic artist Michelangelo suggested that a "same-sex relationship is not a sin and will not keep someone out of Heaven." Because Lewis' essays were unsatisfactory to Russum in that she could not agree with the opinions she was being taught, she was given zeroes. She then contacted her professor to express concern out of her belief that her faith was being targeted.

"This course in no way is a challenge to anyone religious 'faith' because it never addresses religion from the standpoint of faith, only from philosophical/political/historical perspectives," Rossum

responded. "What you hold as a faith system is your personal belief about the gods and goddesses."

"When you write from a faith position your writing is contrary to the BCI (Basic Course Information Catalog)," he continued. "The BCI is what I am obligated to grade you on. Your answers make it impossible for me to grade when you refuse to follow the course objectives."

Lewis' parents also contacted Dean Donald Painter, who reviewed the matter but said that he found the assignments to be "appropriate based on the course description and learning outcomes."

Lewis then contacted the Christian legal organization Liberty Counsel for assistance, which requested an investigation into Russum as well as an apology and an assurance that Christians will not be discriminated against in his class in the future.

But Polk State University is reportedly continuing to defend Russum. An attorney for the university states that other academic officials reviewed Lewis' work and agreed that she was wrong in not going along with what being asked for in the assignments and instead defended her Christian beliefs. Liberty Counsel, however, believes that it is rather the university that is wrong in punishing Lewis for not conforming to anti-Christian ideas.