

2. **ATTENTIVENESS** vs. Distraction – Showing the worth of a person or task by giving my undivided concentration (Achieving True Success – How to Build Character as a Family – IACC, 2000).

Proverbs 4:1 – “Listen, my sons, to the instruction of a father, and **pay attention so that you may gain understanding.**”

I. Hannah – 1Sa. 1:1-18

A. The attentiveness of \_\_\_\_\_ (=God has created a son) – motivated by \_\_\_\_\_.

1. A Levite by \_\_\_\_\_ – 1Chron. 6:16, 22-28; 31-38 / Ephraimite by \_\_\_\_\_ – 1Chron 6:66

2. Was Taught the correct biblical patterns but followed personal \_\_\_\_\_

a. Marriage with \_\_\_\_\_ wife but followed cultural convenience with \_\_\_\_\_ wives.

b. Requirement of \_\_\_\_\_ feast attendance (Ex. 34:18-23 – Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles) but followed convenience with \_\_\_\_\_ feast per year in Shiloh (cf. Judges 21:19).

3. Elkanah was in the Levitical line to serve but didn't \_\_\_\_\_. Hannah was the only one looking for offspring to serve the Lord (v. 11).

4. Elkanah addressed Hannah about her \_\_\_\_\_ but not Peninnah about her \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Elkanah was more concerned about Hannah's \_\_\_\_\_ manifestations than the \_\_\_\_\_ motivations.

B. The attentiveness of Peninnah (=Ruby/Pearl?) – motivated by \_\_\_\_\_ – she's known for:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ to Hannah

2. \_\_\_\_\_ provoking

3. \_\_\_\_\_ conversation

4. \_\_\_\_\_ attacks

C. The attentiveness of Eli – motivated by a \_\_\_\_\_ attitude – believing yourself to be morally/spiritually superior

1. Eli \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.
2. What did he NOT do? \_\_\_\_\_, nor \_\_\_\_\_.

D. The attentiveness of Hannah (= \_\_\_\_\_)

1. Hannah was attentive FIRST to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. She didn't \_\_\_\_\_ in anger.
  - b. She didn't respond \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. She didn't \_\_\_\_\_ the other.
2. Hannah was attentive to what God would want – \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. “The Lord had closed her womb” – v. 5; Ge. 16:1-3; 20:18; Ge. 30:1
  - b. “...Why is your heart sad / bad?” – v. 8 – root / parent noun = evil, bad, misery, distress:  
 More literally the question is, “Why is your heart bad?” The only other precise OT parallel for this phrase is Deuteronomy 15:10: “Do so without a grudging heart” (lit., “May your heart not be bad when you do so!” [i.e., when you give generously to the Lord]). To do something “with a bad heart” means to do it resentfully (or grudgingly; so the NIV on Dt 15:10). Thus Elkanah is not so much asking Hannah why her heart is sad (“Why are you downhearted?”) but why her heart is bad (“Why are you resentful?”). Are you angry or full of spite because you do not have children? “Don't I”—your husband, who loves you very much—“mean more to you than ten sons?”<sup>1</sup>
  - c. “Greatly distressed” – v. 10 = bitterness of soul (NIV84; KJV; NKJV), deeply hurt (CSB, HCSB)
  - d. “wept bitterly” – v. 10 = not so much the amount of tears, but the depth of hurt.
  - e. “Despairing of spirit” – v. 15 = severe, hard, cruel
  - f. “Great concern and provocation” – v. 16 = anguish, complaint, pain / grief, vexation, resentment
  - g. “I have poured out my soul before the LORD – v. 15; Psa. 62:8; Lam. 2:19
3. Hannah was attentive to \_\_\_\_\_ – v. 26-28

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<sup>1</sup> Ronald F. Youngblood, [“1, 2 Samuel,”](#) in *The Expositor's Bible Commentary: 1 Samuel–2 Kings (Revised Edition)*, ed. Tremper Longman III and David E. Garland, vol. 3 (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2009), 47.

*Lastly*, The child Samuel did his part beyond what could have been expected from one of his years; for of him that seems to be spoken, *He worshipped the Lord there*, that is *he said his prayers*. He was no doubt extraordinarily forward (we have known children that have discovered some sense of religion very young), and his mother, designing him for the sanctuary, took particular care to train him up to that which was to be his work in the sanctuary. Note, Little children should learn betimes to worship God. Their parents should instruct them in his worship and bring them to it, put them upon engaging in it as well as they can, and God will graciously accept them and teach them to do better<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Matthew Henry, [\*Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible: Complete and Unabridged in One Volume\*](#) (Peabody: Hendrickson, 1994), 383.