

1 & 2 Samuel Series

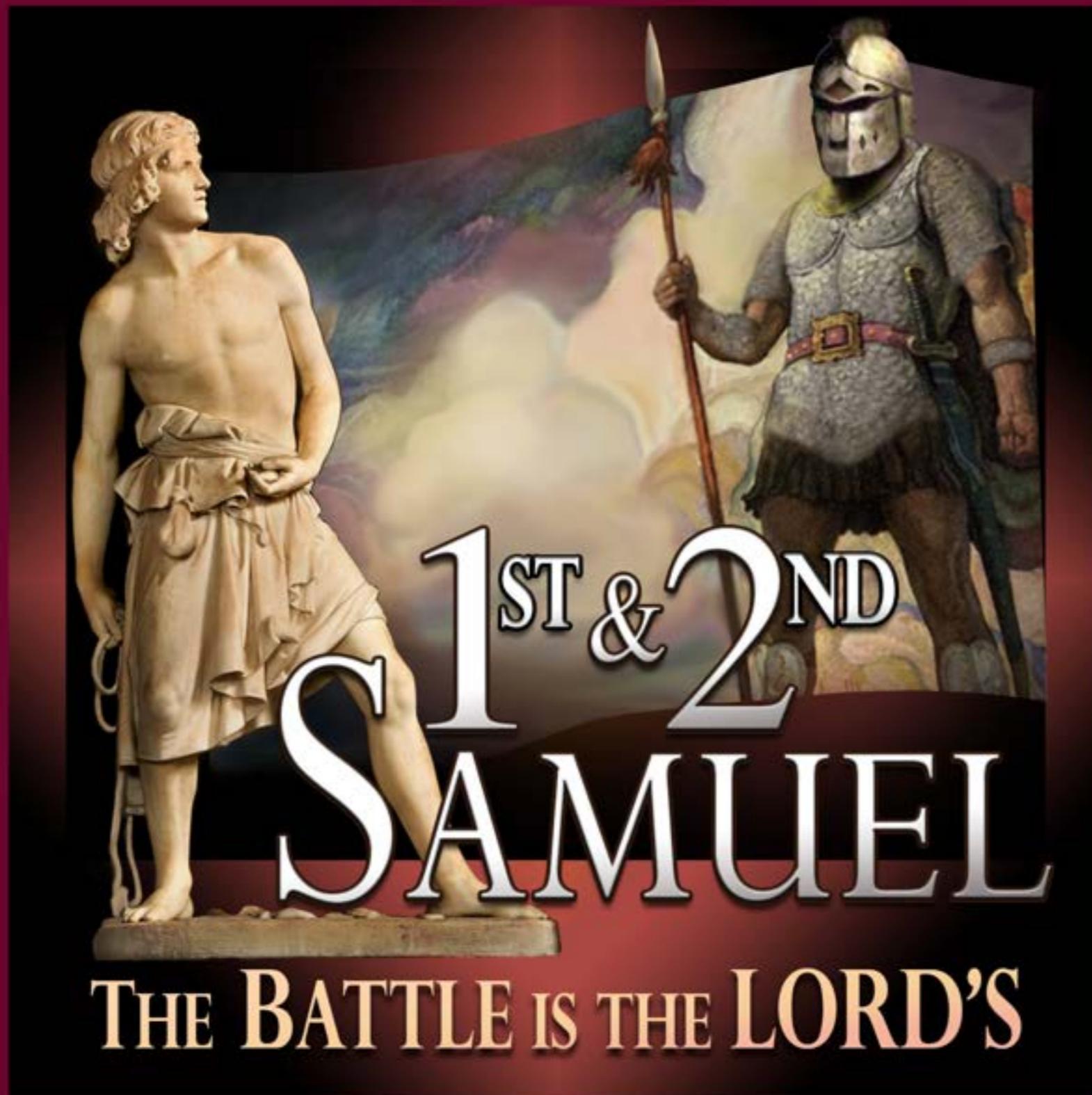
Lesson #009

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Dean Bible Ministries

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GRIEF, WEEPING, SORROW
1 SAMUEL 1:8–10

- 1A The Lord prepares to deliver Israel from her enemies by grace (1:1–7:17)**
- 1B The Lord honors Hannah's faith by answering her prayers (1:1–2:11)**
- 1C The Lord opens Hannah's womb (1:1–1:20)**
- 1D The Lord had closed Hannah's womb to prepare for the deliverance of Israel through a gracious, miraculous birth (1:1–7)**

1 Sam. 1:5, “but to Hannah he would give a double portion, for he loved Hannah, but the LORD had closed her womb.

1 Sam. 1:6, “Her rival, however, would provoke her bitterly to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb.”

כָּעַס (kā'as) *be vexed, indignant, angry, wroth, be grieved, provoke to anger and wrath (ASV, RSV similar)*

Mark 10:22, “But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.”

**λυπέω *lupeō* to grieve, be in
sorrow, pain**

Matt. 26:37, “And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed.”

λυπέω *lupeō* to grieve, be in sorrow, pain

**ἀδημονέω *adēmoneō*
to be very heavy**

The Doctrine of the Barren Woman

Psa. 127:3, “Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward.

Psa. 127:4, “Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one’s youth.

Psa. 127:5, “Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed, But shall speak with their enemies in the gate.”

1. The significance of barrenness is not some sin on the part of this woman, there were certainly many other barren women in the Scripture that are not mentioned, why are these mentioned?

Remember “fruitfulness” was a divine mandate and the expected norm.

Gen. 1:22, “And God blessed them, saying, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.’ ”

Gen. 1:28, “And God blessed them, and said unto them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it ...’ ”

Gen. 9:1, “So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.’ ”

Gen. 9:7, “And as for you, be fruitful and multiply; Bring forth abundantly in the earth and multiply in it.”

2. In specific cases, God intervened and closed the wombs of some women.

Gen. 20:18, “for the LORD had closed up all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham’s wife.”

Gen. 30:2, “And Jacob’s anger was aroused against Rachel, and he said, ‘Am I in the place of God, who has withheld from you the fruit of the womb?’ ”

3. Scripture make an issue out of the infertility of six women:

Sara, Gen. 11:30,

Rebekah, Gen. 25:21,

Rachel, Gen. 29:31,

The mother of Samson, Judges 13:2,

Hannah, 1 Sam. 1,

Elisabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, Luke 1:7

4. Barrenness was considered a reproach.

Gen. 30:23, “And she conceived and bore a son, and said, ‘God has taken away my reproach.’ ”

Luke 1:25, “Thus the Lord has dealt with me, in the days when He looked on me, to take away my reproach among people.”

חֶרְפָּה *cherpa* comm
fem sing constr
“reproach, disgrace,
contempt”

ὄνειδος *oneidos*
“object of
reproach; disgrace,
reproach, insult”

5. The absence of barren women indicates Israel's spirituality and divine blessing; the presence of barren women indicates Israel's carnality and divine judgment.

Ex. 23:26, "There shall be no one miscarrying or barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days."

Gen. 35:11, "Also God said to him: 'I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall proceed from you, and kings shall come from your body.' "

Lev. 26:3–4, “If you walk in My statutes and keep My commandments, and perform them, then I will give you rain in its season, the land shall yield its produce, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit. . . .”

Lev. 26:9, “For I will look on you favorably and make you fruitful, multiply you and confirm My covenant with you.”

Deut. 7:14, “You shall be blessed above all peoples; there shall not be a male or female barren among you or among your livestock.”

6. Thus the barren womb in these women pictures the emptiness and lifelessness of Israel specifically and mankind in general. This will only be rectified in the coming Kingdom.

Isa. 54:1, “ ‘Sing, O barren, You who have not borne! Break forth into singing, and cry aloud, You who have not labored with child! For more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married woman,’ says the LORD.”

7. In each case God miraculously brings forth life where there is no life. This is a picture of regeneration. Only God can solve the problem of spiritual birth.

8. The barren womb is a type of the virgin womb of Mary. There the solution to the lifeless womb is the new life in the incarnation of the God-man Jesus Christ.

Bitterness of Soul

Job 3:20,

**“Why is light given to him who is in misery,
And life to the bitter of soul,”**

Job 7:11,

**“Therefore I will not restrain my mouth;
I will speak in the anguish of my spirit;
I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.”**

Job 10:1,

**“My soul loathes my life;
I will give free course to my complaint,
I will speak in the bitterness of my soul.”**

The Shunammite Woman

2 Kings 4:27, “Now when she came to the man of God at the hill, she caught him by the feet, but Gehazi came near to push her away. But the man of God said, ‘Let her alone; for her soul is in deep distress, and the LORD has hidden it from me, and has not told me.’ ”

Weeping: The Emotions of Life

1. Emotion is the responder to situations, circumstances, events, or even our own thoughts and emotions. When emotions are intense, we often express that through the shedding of tears. Weeping may be a spontaneous, automatic reflex to intense emotion.