

The background of the image is a dramatic photograph of a stormy sea. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, and the ocean below is a deep blue-green color, with white-capped waves crashing in the foreground. The overall mood is one of uncertainty and drama.

TRUSTING
IN God
during *uncertain times*

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This story
can be found in
1 Samuel chapters 1-3

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“Year after year this man went up from his town to worship and sacrifice to the Lord Almighty at Shiloh, where Hophni and Phinehas, the two sons of Eli, were priests of the Lord. Whenever the day came for Elkanah to sacrifice, he

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would give portions of the meat to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters.

But to Hannah he gave a double portion because he loved her, and the Lord had closed her womb. Because the Lord had closed Hannah's

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womb, her rival kept provoking her in order to irritate her. This went on year after year.”

1 Samuel 1:3-7 (NIV)

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Hannah's Story:

Broken personally.
Provoked publically.

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“In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the Lord, weeping bitterly. And she made a vow, saying, “Lord Almighty, if you will only look on your servant’s misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give

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him to the Lord for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head.” As

she kept on praying to the Lord, Eli observed her mouth.

Hannah was praying in her heart, and her lips were moving but her voice was not

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heard. Eli thought she was drunk and said to her, “How long are you going to stay drunk? Put away your wine.”

“Not so, my lord,” Hannah replied, “I am a woman who is deeply troubled. I have not been drinking wine or beer; I

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was pouring out my soul to the Lord. Do not take your servant for a wicked woman; I have been praying here out of my great anguish and grief.”

1 Samuel 1:10-16 (NIV)

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Hannah's Story:

Broken personally.
Provoked publically.
Prayed desperately.

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“So in the course of time
Hannah became pregnant and
gave birth to a son. She named
him Samuel, saying, “Because I
asked the Lord for him.”

1 Samuel 1:20 (NIV)

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Hannah's Story:

Broken personally.
Provoked publically.
Prayed desperately.
Received gratefully.
Gave faithfully.

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“I prayed for this child, and the Lord has granted me what I asked of him. So now I give him to the Lord. For his whole life he will be given over to the Lord.”

1 Samuel 1:27-28 (NIV)

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Even though Samuel was
raised in the Temple,
that didn't guarantee
success in life.

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“My heart rejoices in the Lord;
in the Lord my horn is lifted
high. My mouth boasts over
my enemies, for I delight in
your deliverance.

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There is no one holy like the
Lord; there is no one besides
you; there is no Rock
like our God.

1 Samuel 2:1-2 (NIV)

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A dramatic photograph of a stormy sea under a dark, cloudy sky. The water is choppy with white-capped waves, suggesting a rough sea. A large, solid black rectangular box is positioned in the upper half of the image, leaving the lower third visible.

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