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YouTube Prayer Link

If you give with all your heart, God will double your favor

1 SAMUEL
CHAPTER 2

2:20 Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, saying, "May the LORD give you children by this woman to take the place of the one she prayed for and gave to the LORD." Then they would go home.

2:21 And the LORD was gracious to Hannah; she conceived and gave birth to three sons and two daughters. Meanwhile, the boy Samuel grew up in the presence of the LORD.

1 Samuel chapter 2 contains a powerful prayer of Hannah, expressing her gratitude and praise to God after the birth of her son, Samuel. This chapter also contrasts the character of Hannah with the corrupt behavior of Eli's sons, Hophni and Phinehas, who serve as priests in the tabernacle.

In this challenging and uncertain world, people often look for a strength, a divine protection beyond mortals, to cope with life's difficulties. There's an old proverb that says, "God will double the favor when you give with all your heart." It is a deep belief in faith and devotion, like a rare key to the power of the heart, which activates the power of miracles.

Sincere devotion is a selfless giving, a dedication of one's love and strength to a greater being, whether it is the gods of the universe, the forces of nature, or the

common beliefs of mankind. This dedication is not only reflected in the material level, but also in a spiritual level. When a person genuinely gives love and kindness to help others regardless of return, he leaves a shining mark in the order of the universe.

And the phrase that God will favor and double it seems to be a divine promise, a kind of reward for those who truly give. This is not necessarily a material reward, but more likely a spiritual blessing. When a person genuinely gives love and effort, his life will gain greater meaning and he will feel the power of the universe to some extent.

Such faith is also a source of hope. When encountering setbacks and difficulties in life, believing that sincere devotion will bring divine blessings and will allow people to find an outlet for light in the darkest moments. This belief can be a force that drives us to face life's trials with courage and trust in the miracle of grace. However, genuine devotion and God's favor also need to be reflected in action. It is not enough to just pay lip service, we need to demonstrate this belief through practical actions. Whether it's caring for others, protecting the environment, or promoting social progress, it's all ways to put faith into practice.

Therefore, with sincere dedication, God will double his favor, which is not only an expression of faith, but also a call to action. In these challenging times, let us be truly dedicated and believe that the miracle of Grace will unfold in our lives.

Willful ministry refers to the voluntary, unconditional love, and willingness of a person to serve and give in religious, spiritual, or charitable ministry. This kind of service is based on love for God, others, or society, not out of compulsion, responsibility, or other external factors.

Willful ministry has the following characteristics:

Voluntariness: This ministry is based on personal voluntariness and spontaneity, rather than being pressured or compelled from outside.

Unconditional Love: Willing service comes from unconditional love for others, not expecting something in return or reward.

Willingly: Ministers feel happy, satisfied, and willing to give their time, energy, and resources in the process of doing things.

Devotion to God: Willing service is often a form of devotion to God, and the minister is convinced that it is a faithful response to God.

Selfless Mindset: Ministers put their own needs and interests on the back burner and focus on serving others and meeting their needs.

In the Bible, there are verses that refer to God's reward for true devotion and faith, including doubling blessings. Here are some of these verses:

Job 42:10

"Jehovah brought Job back from his troubles, and he prayed to be his friend, and Yahweh multiplied all his calamities. 』

Isaiah 61:7

"You shall be blessed twice as well in the name of my LORD, and so shall your children beyond. 』

Psalm 126:5

"Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves."

Zechariah 9:12

"Hope, ye who are imprisoned, for I will give you double your reward. 』

In these verses, God gives abundant blessings and rewards, sometimes even mentioning double blessings, to those who truly give and believe. However, when understanding these verses, one should also consider the context behind them and the different ways in which they are interpreted, as biblical verses may have different understandings and emphases in different denominations and doctrines.

Please pray for us to strengthen our faith in God's work

Let's pray together

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for always being with us and listening to our prayers. We stand here to pray to You on behalf of this man of faith to strengthen our faith in His God's work.

Give him a steadfast heart that will let faith be rooted in your truth and promises as a solid foundation. Reveal Your plan so that He understands Your guidance and leadership in His life.

May the Holy Spirit fill him with wisdom and revelation so that he can understand Your Word more deeply and be more resolute and firm in his ministry. May Your grace fill his life so that he can remain confident in Your faithfulness and promises in the face of challenges.

We believe that You are a God who answers prayer and is willing to strengthen those who seek You. Thank you for hearing our prayers and bless this brother and sister in God's work to strengthen their faith and live for Your glory. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

1 SAMUEL

CHAPTER 2

1Sa. 2:1 Then Hannah prayed and said: "My heart rejoices in the LORD; in the LORD my horn [Horn here symbolises

strength; also in verse 10.] is lifted high. My mouth boasts over my enemies, for I delight in your deliverance.

1Sa. 2:2 “There is no-one holy [Or no Holy One] like the LORD; there is no-one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.

1Sa. 2:3 “Do not keep talking so proudly or let your mouth speak such arrogance, for the LORD is a God who knows, and by him deeds are weighed.

1Sa. 2:4 “The bows of the warriors are broken, but those who stumbled are armed with strength.

1Sa. 2:5 Those who were full hire themselves out for food, but those who were hungry hunger no more. She who was barren has borne seven children, but she who has had many sons pines away.

1Sa. 2:6 “The LORD brings death and makes alive; he brings down to the grave [Hebrew Sheol] and raises up.

1Sa. 2:7 The LORD sends poverty and wealth; he humbles and he exalts.

1Sa. 2:8 He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; he seats them with princes and has them inherit a throne of honour. “For the foundations of the earth are the LORD’s; upon them he has set the world.

1Sa. 2:9 He will guard the feet of his saints, but the wicked will be silenced in darkness. “It is not by strength that one prevails;

1Sa. 2:10 those who oppose the LORD will be shattered. He will thunder against them from heaven; the LORD will judge the ends of the earth. “He will give strength to his king and exalt the horn of his anointed.”

1Sa. 2:11 Then Elkanah went home to Ramah, but the boy ministered before the LORD under Eli the priest.

1Sa. 2:12 Eli’s sons were wicked men; they had no regard for the LORD.

1Sa. 2:13 Now it was the practice of the priests with the people that whenever anyone offered a sacrifice and while the meat was being boiled, the servant of the priest would come with a three-pronged fork in his hand.

1Sa. 2:14 He would plunge it into the pan or kettle or cauldron or pot, and the priest would take for himself whatever the fork brought up. This is how they treated all the Israelites who came to Shiloh.

1Sa. 2:15 But even before the fat was burned, the servant of the priest would come and say to the man who was sacrificing, “Give the priest some meat to roast; he won’t accept boiled meat from you, but only raw.”

1Sa. 2:16 If the man said to him, “Let the fat be burned up first, and then take whatever you want,” the servant would then answer, “No, hand it over now; if you don’t, I’ll take it by force.”

1Sa. 2:17 This sin of the young men was very great in the LORD’s sight, for they [Or men] were treating the LORD’s offering with contempt.

1Sa. 2:18 But Samuel was ministering before the LORD — a boy wearing a linen ephod.

1Sa. 2:19 Each year his mother made him a little robe and took it to him when she went up with her husband to offer the annual sacrifice.

1Sa. 2:20 Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, saying, “May the LORD give you children by this woman to take the place of the one she prayed for and gave to the LORD.” Then they would go home.

1Sa. 2:21 And the LORD was gracious to Hannah; she conceived and gave birth to three sons and two daughters. Meanwhile, the boy Samuel grew up in the presence of the LORD.

1Sa. 2:22 Now Eli, who was very old, heard about everything his sons were doing to all Israel and how they slept with the women who served at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting.

1Sa. 2:23 So he said to them, “Why do you do such things? I hear from all the people about these wicked deeds of yours.

1Sa. 2:24 No, my sons; it is not a good report that I hear spreading among the LORD’s people.

1Sa. 2:25 If a man sins against another man, God [Or the judges] may mediate for him; but if a man sins against the LORD, who will intercede for him?” His sons, however, did not listen to their father’s rebuke, for it was the LORD’s will to put them to death.

1Sa. 2:26 And the boy Samuel continued to grow in stature and in favour with the LORD and with men.

1Sa. 2:27 Now a man of God came to Eli and said to him, “This is what the LORD says: `Did I not clearly reveal myself to your father’s house when they were in Egypt under Pharaoh?

1Sa. 2:28 I chose your father out of all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to go up to my altar, to burn incense, and to wear an ephod in my presence. I also gave your father’s house all the offerings made with fire by the Israelites.

1Sa. 2:29 Why do you [The Hebrew is plural.] scorn my sacrifice and offering that I prescribed for my dwelling? Why do you honour your sons more than me by fattening yourselves on

the choice parts of every offering made by my people Israel?’

1Sa. 2:30 “Therefore the LORD, the God of Israel, declares: ‘I promised that your house and your father’s house would minister before me for ever.’ But now the LORD declares: ‘Far be it from me! Those who honour me I will honour, but those who despise me will be disdained.

1Sa. 2:31 The time is coming when I will cut short your strength and the strength of your father’s house, so that there will not be an old man in your family line

1Sa. 2:32 and you will see distress in my dwelling. Although good will be done to Israel, in your family line there will never be an old man.

1Sa. 2:33 Every one of you that I do not cut off from my altar will be spared only to blind your eyes with tears and to grieve your heart, and all your descendants will die in the prime of life.

1Sa. 2:34 “‘And what happens to your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, will be a sign to you — they will both die on the same day.

1Sa. 2:35 I will raise up for myself a faithful priest, who will do according to what is in my heart and mind. I will firmly establish his house, and he will minister before my anointed one always.

1Sa. 2:36 Then everyone left in your family line will come and bow down before him for a piece of silver and a crust of bread and plead, “Appoint me to some priestly office so that I can have food to eat.””“

Chapter 2 begins with a prayer of thanksgiving from Hannah, Samuel's mother, to the Lord for answering her prayer and giving her a son. In her prayer, Hannah praises the Lord's power and sovereignty, and acknowledges that every good thing in life comes from God.

The chapter then shifts to Eli's sons, Hophni and Phinehas, who are serving as priests in the tabernacle in Shiloh. They are described as corrupt and sinful, taking advantage of their position to steal from the offerings and sleep with the women who served at the entrance to the tabernacle. Eli confronts his sons about their behavior, but they do not listen to him.

A man of God visits Eli and delivers a message from the Lord, condemning Eli and his family for their sins and announcing that their priesthood will be taken away from them. The man also prophesies the rise of a new priest who will be more faithful and obedient to God.

The rest of the chapter describes the contrast between Samuel, who is growing up in the tabernacle under Eli's guidance, and Hophni and Phinehas, who continue to sin and disrespect the Lord. Samuel is described as growing in stature and in favor with both the Lord and the people. The chapter ends with a prophecy of judgment against Eli's family and a promise of blessing for the faithful.

Chapter 2 continues the theme of God's power and sovereignty, and contrasts the faithfulness of Samuel with the sinfulness of Eli's sons. It also introduces the idea of prophetic messages and divine judgment, which will be recurring themes throughout the book.

Here are some important verses in chapter 2 of the book of 1 Samuel in the Bible:

1. "Then Hannah prayed and said: '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.'" (1 Samuel 2:1)
2. "Do not keep talking so proudly or let your mouth speak such arrogance, for the Lord is a God who knows, and by him deeds are weighed." (1 Samuel 2:3)
3. "Those who were full hire themselves out for food, but those who were hungry are hungry no more. She who was barren has borne seven children, but she who has had many sons pines away." (1 Samuel 2:5)

These verses continue the story of Hannah's prayer and gratitude to God for blessing her with a son, Samuel. The chapter also introduces the character of Eli, the priest who initially mistook Hannah's fervent prayer for drunkenness. Eli's sons, who were corrupt and disobedient, are also described in this chapter, as well as the prophetic warning they received. Additionally, the chapter contains some powerful statements about God's sovereignty and justice.

1 Samuel chapter 2 contains a powerful prayer of Hannah, expressing her gratitude and praise to God after the birth of her son, Samuel. This chapter also contrasts the character of Hannah with the corrupt behavior of Eli's sons, Hophni and Phinehas, who serve as priests in the tabernacle.

One of the main themes that emerge from this chapter is the faithfulness and sovereignty of God. Hannah's prayer exalts God for His holiness, power, and knowledge. She acknowledges that every good thing in her life, including the gift of Samuel, comes from God. Hannah's prayer reminds us of the importance of recognizing and acknowledging God's faithfulness and provision in our own lives. It encourages us to cultivate a spirit of gratitude and praise, knowing that all blessings flow from His loving hand.

Furthermore, this chapter highlights the contrast between the righteous and the wicked. Hophni and Phinehas, despite being born into a privileged position as priests, are depicted as corrupt and immoral. They disregard the sacredness of their role and engage in sinful practices, taking advantage of the offerings brought to the Lord's house. In contrast, Hannah, a woman of humility and integrity, offers her child back to God, honoring her vow and prioritizing her commitment to Him.

Through this stark contrast, we are reminded of the importance of living a life of righteousness and obedience to God's commands. The actions of Hophni and Phinehas serve as a cautionary tale, warning us against the dangers of abusing authority and compromising our integrity. It challenges us to examine our own lives and ensure that our actions align with God's standards of righteousness.

Additionally, 1 Samuel chapter 2 emphasizes God's ability to exalt the humble and bring down the proud. Hannah's song acknowledges that God has the power to reverse human fortunes and bring justice to the oppressed. She celebrates the fact that God lifts up the lowly and fills the hungry with good things, while the rich and mighty are brought low.

This chapter encourages us to trust in God's justice and to have faith in His ultimate plan. It reminds us that our worth and significance are not determined by worldly standards but by God's grace and favor. It calls us to seek humility and to place our trust in God, knowing that He is the one who ultimately lifts us up and provides for our needs.

In conclusion, 1 Samuel chapter 2 invites us to reflect on the faithfulness and sovereignty of God, the importance of living a life of righteousness and integrity, and the power of humility and trust in God's plan. Through the contrasting examples of Hannah and Eli's sons, we are challenged to examine our own lives and strive to honor God in all that we do. May we, like Hannah, offer prayers of gratitude and praise to the Lord, and may our lives reflect His righteousness and grace.