



Wayne's Words

Rev. Wayne Walters

Sunday 14th November, 2021



From Little Things, Big Things Grow!

1 Samuel 1:1-28 (see also chapters 2 & 3)

The scriptures continue to give us these intriguing and endearing peeks behind the curtain of the great events of history. And isn't this reality? Great things frequently emerge from obscure and humble, yet faithful beginnings. Hannah is the example of humble faithfulness in this instance.

Deprived of the ability to conceive children and mocked by her rival wife, she cries out to the Lord in bitterness of soul and is even then taken for a drunken woman by the presiding priest, Eli.

After she describes her grief, the priest speaks the blessing of an Amen to her prayer and she takes heart and faith at this and leaves in peace, her grief left at the altar.

Furthermore, once Hannah bears and weans the child she had prayed for - having made a promise to dedicate him completely to God - she brings him to Eli at the temple for him to live and be trained in God's service. Samuel grew to become a great prophet in an era when prophecy had appeared to have died out. He became the kingmaker, anointing first Saul, then David, as the original kings of Israel at God's direction.

So, the highpoint of Israel's history, and the fulfillment of God's promises to them in the godly and epoch-making leadership of David, was birthed through the two unlikely and obscure women – Ruth (as we saw last week) and Hannah.

Who knows what God will do through the faithfulness of your life in small obscure matters, with what God has placed in your hands?

As the Lord said through the prophet Zechariah 4:10 – 'Do not despise these small beginnings ...'

Whether in context of the congregation of St Michael's or in your own circle of interaction, God is up to something. Do you perceive it? He is inviting you to be part of it – through humble love and faithfulness that depends on and mirrors his very own character.

God bless you people of St Michael's for sustaining the flame of Christian faith through your prayer and witness even to this very day ... and into the future that God is shaping for us and through us.

Wayne