

VICTORIOUS JOY

I. Prayer and Introduction

II. This Month's FCC Preaching Theme: The Fruit of the Spirit, Joy

III. A Quick Review of Last Week: The Christian's Joy

1 John 1:1-4

IV. The 'Song of Hannah'

A. The Story of Hannah; 1 Samuel 1:1-28

- Samuel's Family (1:1-3)
- Hannah's Problem (1:4-8)
- Hannah's Prayer (1:9-18)
- Samuel's Birth (1:19-23)
- Samuel's Presentation to God (1:24-28)

B. The "Song of Hannah", 1 Samuel 2:1-10

- Inner strength and victory:
 - My heart "exults" – "a show or feel of TRIUMPHANT ELATION"
- Hannah recognizes and extols the qualities of God
 - As "only God"
 - As a God of Knowledge and Justice
- The God of Reversal:
 - The "mighty" fall, the "feeble rise"
 - Poverty to Wealth, Wealth to Poverty
 - He "brings low", He "exalts"

V. Mary's prayer, the "Magnificat" (*listen for echoes of the prayer of Hannah here*)

A. Mary's "Story"; Luke (Luke 1:26-1:45)

- Gabriel visits the "favored one", the Virgin Mary
 - Mary learns that her Son will be the "Son of the Most High" Who will inherit the throne of David
 - Mary learns that the power of the Most High will "overshadow" her
 - Mary's faith: "let it be done to me according to your word"

B. Mary's "Magnificat" (Luke 1:46-55)

- "My soul *magnifies* the Lord", why?
 - God has "looked with favor on me"
 - God has "done great things for me"
- He is a God of Reversal: (compare with the bleakness and glory of the Cross)
 - The proud and powerful are brought down, as the lowly are lifted
 - The hungry are filled, while the rich are emptied
- He is a God of mercy and promises

VI. What are the lessons seen here in "victorious joy"?