Now there was a certain man from the hill country of Ephraim, and his name was El-ka-nah.
He had two wives: the name of one was Han-nah and the name of the other Pen-in-nah; and Pen-in-nah had child-REN, but Han-nah had no child-REN.

Now this man would go up from his cit-y year-ly to wor-ship and to sac-ri-fice to the Lord of hosts in Shi-loh.
When the day came that El-ka-nah sacrificed, he would give portions to Pen-in-nah his wife and to all her sons and her daughters; but to Han-nah he would give a double portion, for he loved Han-nah, but the Lord had closed her womb.
Her ri-val, how-ever, would pro-voke her bit-ter-ly to ir-ri-tate her, be-cause the Lord had closed her womb.

It hap-pened year af-ter year, as of-ten as she went up to the house of the Lord, she would pro-voke her; so she wept and would not eat.
Then Han-nah rose af-ter eat-ing and drink-ing in Shi-loh. Now E-li the priest was sit-ting on the seat by the door-post of the tem-ple of the Lord.

She, great-ly dis-tressed, prayed to the Lord and wept bit-ter-ly.
She made a vow and said, "O Lord of hosts, if You will give Your maid-ser-vant a son, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life, and a ra-zor shall nev-er come on his head."

Now it came a-bout, as she con-tin-ued pray-ing be-fore the Lord, that E-li was watch-ing her mouth.
As for Han-nah, she was speak-ing in her heart, on-ly her lips were mov-ing, but her voice was not heard. So E-li thought she was drunk.

Then E-li said to her, “How long will you make your-self drunk? Put a-way your wine from you.”
But Han-nah re-plied, "No, my lord, I am a wo-man op-pressed in spir-it; I have drunk neith-er wine nor strong drink, but I have poured out my soul be-fore the Lord.

Do not con-sid-er your maid-ser-vant as a worth-less wo-man, for I have spok-en un-til now out of my great con-cern and pro-vo-ca-tion."
Then E-li an-swered and said, "Go in peace; and may the God of Is-ra-el grant your pe-ti-tion that you have asked of Him."

She said, "Let your maid-ser-vant find fa-vor in your sight." So the wo-man went her way and ate, and her face was no long-er sad.
It came a-bout in due time, af-ter Han-nah had con-ceived, that she gave birth to a son; and she named him Sam-u-el, say-ing, "Be-cause I have asked him of the Lord."

She brought the boy to E-li. She said, "Oh, my lord! I am the wo-man who stood here be-side you, pray-ing to the Lord."
For this boy I prayed, and the Lord has given me my petition which I asked of Him.

So I have also dedicated him to the Lord; as long as he lives he is dedicated to the Lord.”