

Monday Vespers after Trinity 3
1 Samuel 2:1-21
June 26th, 2023
ELDoNA Synod and Colloquium
Salem Ev. Lutheran Church
Malone, TX
Pastor Jerald Dulas

Jehovah Will Judge the Ends of the Earth

In Nomine Iesu!

In the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Sermon Text:

“They that strive with Jehovah shall be broken to pieces; Against them will He thunder in Heaven: Jehovah will judge the ends of the earth; And He will give strength unto His King, and exalt the horn of His Anointed.”

Prayer in Pulpit before Sermon:

O Lord, send out Thy Light and Thy Truth, let them lead us. O Lord, open Thou my lips, that my mouth may show forth Thy praise. O Lord, graciously preserve me, lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be rejected. Amen.

Grace, mercy, and peace be to you from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior + Jesus Christ. Amen.

My dear brothers in Christ, there are many similarities between this Canticle which we hear today from the First Book of the Kings, commonly called First Samuel, and the Canticle recorded in the first chapter of the Evangelist St. Luke. The Canticle in St. Luke that we know as the *Magnificat* has many similarities to this Canticle which is known as the *Exultavit Cor Meum*. That is because they both proclaim and prophesy the same thing: both of these Canticles prophesy and proclaim the coming of our Lord + Jesus, the Christ.

The *Magnificat* we sing at Evening Prayer. It is the Canticle of Vespers. We close each day with the promise of a Savior born in our flesh for us. The Blessed Virgin Mary sings to us the promise of a Savior born from her womb Who has taken upon Himself our flesh, to be our brother, to bring low those who are our enemies, and to raise us up out of the grasp of sin and death, and give to us an eternal life with Him. Every night at Vespers we join our voices to the Blessed Virgin's and sing about our blessed Redeemer and Savior, Who has come down from Heaven to be save us from all our enemies, and give us an eternal Kingdom in Heaven. St. Mary in her Canticle reflects the words of Hannah.

Hannah, whose very name means “grace” proclaims and prophesies to us a King Who will defeat our enemies. She whose name means “grace” proclaims that grace to us. She proclaims our salvation—our “Yeshua.” Our Yeshua will come and establish His Kingdom among us. He will establish this Kingdom by establishing the Church. For it is by the Church that many children are born out of water and the spirit. This Yeshua, this Savior, this King will come to judge the ends of the earth. He will judge the ends of the earth by placing Himself in the place where only the guilty deserve to be placed. He will place Himself upon the tree of the holy cross. There He will be judged for our sins. Upon the cross He Who knew no sin, will become sin for us, so that we may be declared free from the penalty of our sins.

In His innocence He will bear our sins. He will be judged, and we will be set free from the bonds of sin and death. This sacrifice will be for all mankind. Now this sacrifice gives life and salvation to all those who cling to it in faith. And is that not what Hannah sang to us in her Canticle? The words, or variations thereof, of “bringing down,” and “lifting up” were entwined within her Canticle. These are the words of death and resurrection. These are the words of sin and death being defeated by holiness and eternal life. These are the words of our Lord and Savior’s sacrifice for us poor, miserable sinners. He suffers and dies—He enters into the grave—in order that He might restore us to life again. He dies so that we might have eternal life with Him in Heaven.

These are the words which we sing at Matins every Wednesday. Just as the *Magnificat* is the Canticle for Vespers that we sing before we lie down and sleep. This Canticle, the *Exultavit Cor Meum*, is the Canticle we sing every Wednesday morning. Why Wednesday you may ask? Did the Church just flip a coin and the lot fell to that day? No, my dear brothers in Christ, Wednesday is the day when our Lord + Jesus was betrayed by Judas Iscariot. It was on Wednesday of Holy Week when Judas agreed with the chief priests to receive thirty pieces of silver to betray the Lord + Jesus at a convenient time when He was away from the crowds. Wednesday is the day when the stage is set for our Lord’s sacrifice on Good Friday.

This is why Wednesday and Fridays are traditionally days of fasting in the Church. Wednesday was the day of our Lord’s betrayal that led to His sacrifice for us on the tree of the holy cross on Good Friday. And it is why we sing the song of Hannah, the *Exultavit Cor Meum*, on Wednesdays. For this Canticle proclaims into our ears the salvation that our Lord + Jesus has won for us by His innocent suffering and death upon the holy cross. He goes down into the grave. He judges the whole world in His flesh upon the cross. All so that He may raise us up again from the grave and declare us to be righteous in His sight. Through faith we obtain this great gift of justification. By faith we are declared holy and righteous in the Lord God’s sight.

Through faith in the works and merits of the Only-begotten Son of God we have been declared justified. For we have been born out of water and the Holy Ghost through the waters of Holy Baptism. In Holy Baptism we have been buried with the Christ, and raised again as a new creation. Through Holy Baptism we have put on the Christ. We bear His righteousness. For we have been born again in the Christian Church. We have been born again from death into life. The Christian Church has born all of her children in this way. She has born us all out of death into life. We who have been brought low by sin and shame have been lifted up by the working of the Holy Ghost. We have become a new creation by the working of the King, the Anointed of the Lord, which Hannah sings about for us today.

He has destroyed all of our enemies. He has broken their bows, so that they can no longer shoot their arrows of accusations against us. He has shut their mouths, so that they cannot bring a charge of sin against us. For we who cling in faith to the Lord + Jesus and His works are judged according to His works and merits, and not our own. Because they can no longer accuse or harm us, our Lord and Savior does for us a wonderful thing! We were poor, and lowly, and hungry and thirsty for righteousness. Our enemies would have had us remain lying in the dust and destitute. The devil, the world, and our sinful flesh sought only our demise and destruction.

But thanks be to the Lord + Jesus, the Anointed One of the Jehovah. For He has lifted us up out of our lowly condition and has united us to be with Him among kings and princes. He came down to be with us in our lowly condition; He humbled Himself to be born of the Blessed Virgin Mary; He hath regarded the low estate of His handmaiden, and us, all so that He might exalt us to be with Him in Heaven. For this reason, the Church sings daily at evening the Canticle of praise about our Lord and Savior raising us up from lowliness. We also sing this Canticle every Wednesday morning, with Hannah, whose name means “grace,” about the grace which has been bestowed upon us by our Yeshua, our salvation. He has raised us up out of sin and death, to enjoy righteousness and life with Him and all the

saints eternally in Heaven. Therefore, my dear brothers in Christ, at such good news, let our hearts exult and sing of all that our Lord Jehovah has done for us. In the Name of our Lord + Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

Prayer in Pulpit after Sermon:

Almighty God, be pleased to accompany Thy Word with Thy Holy Spirit and grant that Thy Word would increase faith in us; bring into the Way of Truth all such as have erred; turn the hearts of the unrepentant; and for sake of Thy Name grant succor to all heavy hearts and those who are heavy-laden, that they may through the mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ be relieved and preserved so that they succumb not to the temptation of despair but rather that they gain the victory over the world, the flesh, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with the Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever One God, world without end. Amen.

The Votum:

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Amen.

Soli Deo Gloria!