I. Hannah’s story: a local example of God’s little people

II. Hannah’s prayer: a national pattern for God’s little people

A. Little people rejoice in the Lord - v.1

B. Little people are confident in the Lord alone - v.2

C. They watch their mouth for He is watching - v.3

D. The Lord crushes the big warriors, but helps the small - v.4

E. Those who had no need became needy, but the wanting are full - v.5
F. The Lord is over all the people. He decides who lives and dies - v.6

G. The Lord makes poor and rich, He brings low and exalts - v.7

H. The Lord makes a poor man into a prince. The world is His - v.8

I. The Lord protects the faithful and destroys the wicked. A man overcomes by the power of God - v.9

J. The Lord will crush His enemies and exalt His anointed - v.10

[Chrysostom: When standing to pray she did not remember her adversary, did not speak of her revilings, did not say, “Avenge me of this vile and wicked woman,” as many women do; but not often remembering those reproaches, she prayed only for things profitable to herself. This do thou also do, O man—do not pray against thy enemy, but beseech God to put an end to thy despondency, to quench thy grief. By so doing this woman derived the greatest benefits from her enemy. For her enemy contributed to the bearing of the child. And how, I will tell. When she reproached her and made her distress greater, from the distress her prayer became more intense, the prayer drew God’s favor and made Him consent, and so Samuel was born. So then if we be watchful, not only will our enemies be unable to do us hurt, but they will even bring us the greatest benefits, making us more zealous towards every thing.—TR.]