

## Chapter 1

*Elcana hauing two wiues, the one called Anna, is barren, and for the fame is reproched by the other, called Phenenna. 9. Anna voweth, and prayeth for a man child, 19. conceiueth and beareth a fonne, calleth him Samuel: 24. and presenteth him to the seruice of God in Silo.*

The firft part.  
Of the gouernments of Heli and Samuel:  
and of changing the ftate into a kingdome.

**T**here was a man of Ramathaimfophim, of mount Ephraim, & his name Elcana, the fonne of Ieroham, the fonne of Eliu, the fonne of Thohu, the fonne of Suph, an Ephraite: <sup>2</sup> and he had two wiues, the name of one was Anna, and the name of the fecond Phenenna. Phenenna had children: but Anna had not children. <sup>3</sup> And that man went vp from his citie vpon ordinarie dayes, to adore and facrifice vnto the Lord of hoftes in Silo. And there were the two fonnes of Heli, Ophni and Phinees, prieftes of our Lord. <sup>4</sup> The day came therfore, & Elcana immolated, and gaue to Phenenna his wife, & to al her fonnes and daughters partes: <sup>5</sup> but to Anna he gaue one part with heauie cheere, becaufe he loued Anna. And our Lord had fhut her matrice. <sup>6</sup> Her aduerfarie alfo afflicted her, and vexed her fore, in fo much that ſhe vpbrayded her, that our Lord had fhut her matrice: <sup>7</sup> and fo did ſhe euerie yeare, when the time returned, that they went vp to the temple of our Lord: and fo ſhe prouoked her: moreouer ſhe wept, and tooke not meat. <sup>8</sup> Elcana therfore her hufband faid to her: Anna, why weepeſt thou? and why doeſt thou not eate? and wherfore doeſt thou afflict thy hart? Am not I better to thee, then tenne children? <sup>9</sup> And Anna arofe after ſhe had eaten and drunke in Silo. And Heli the prieft fitting vpon a Stoole before the poſtes of the houſe of our Lord, <sup>10</sup> wheras Anna had a heauie hart, ſhe praied to our Lord, weeping aboundantly, <sup>11</sup> and ſhe vowed a vowe, faying: O Lord of hoftes, if regarding thou wilt behold the affliction of thy ſeruant, and wilt be mindeful of me, and not forgette thy handmaide, and wilt geue

vnto thy feruant a man childe: I <sup>a</sup>wil geue him to our Lord al the daies of his life, & the rafour shal not come vpon his head. <sup>12</sup> And it came to paffe, when she multiplied praiers before our Lord, that Heli obserued her mouth. <sup>13</sup> Moreouer Anna fpake in her hart, and onlie her lippes moued, and voice there was not heard at al. Heli therefore thought her to be drunke, <sup>14</sup> and fayd to her: How long wilt thou be drunke? digest a litle the wyne, wherwith thou art wette. <sup>15</sup> Anna anfwering: Not fo, quoth she, my lord: for I am an exceding vnhappy woman, and wine and whatfoeuer may inebriate, I haue not drunke, but I haue powred out my soule in the fight of our Lord. <sup>16</sup> Account not thy handmaide as one of the daughters of Belial: for of the multitude of my forrow and heauines haue I fpoken vntil this present. <sup>17</sup> Then Heli faied to her: Goe in peace: and the God of Ifrael geue thee thy petition, which thou haft asked him. <sup>18</sup> But she fayd: Would God thy handmaide may find grace in thyne eyes. And the woman went on her way, and did eate, and her countenance was no more changed otherwife. <sup>19</sup> And they rofe in the morning, and adored before our Lord: and they returned, & came into their houle to Ramatha. And Elcana knew Anna his wife: and our Lord remembred her. <sup>20</sup> And it came to paffe after a certaine compaffe of dayes, Anna conceiued & bare a fonne, and called his name Samuel: becaufe she asked him of our Lord. <sup>21</sup> And Elcana her husband went vp, and al her houle, to immolate vnto our Lord the folemne hofte, and his vowe, <sup>22</sup> and Anna went not vp: for she fayd to her husband: I wil not goe til the infant be weaned, and til I may bring him, that he may appeare before the fight of our Lord, and may remayne there continually. <sup>23</sup> And Elcana her husband fayd to her: Doe that which feemeth good to thee, and tarie

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<sup>a</sup> This childe being of the tribe of Leui, though not of Aarons flock, was lawfully vowed to the feruice of the tabernacle, by his parentes during his childhood, but coming to yeares of difcretion he was at his owne electiō to continew, or to depart. If he had bene of anie other tribe, he muft haue bene redemed. *Leuit. 27.*

til thou weane him: and I pray that our Lord fulfil his word. The woman therefore taried, and gaue her sonne sucke, til she remoued him from the milke. <sup>24</sup> And she brought him with her, after she had weaned him, with three calues, & three bushels of meale, and a flagon of wine, and she brought him to the house of our Lord in Silo. But the childe was yet a litle infant: <sup>25</sup> and they immolated a calfe, and offered the childe to Heli. <sup>26</sup> And Anna said: I beseech thee my lord, thy foule lieth my lord: I am that woman, which stood before thee here praying our Lord. <sup>27</sup> For this childe did I pray, and our Lord hath geuen me my petition, which I asked him. <sup>28</sup> Therefore I also haue geuen him to our Lord al the daies, which he shall liue, that he may be applied to our Lord. And they adored our Lord there. And Anna prayed, and said: