

MOTHERS: A GIFT FROM GOD

John 19:25-27: "Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. 26 When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" 27 Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home."

It is difficult to measure the critical influence that mothers have had on their children. In our day and age when motherhood has fallen upon enormous hard times, we can well appreciate the value of a good mother.

1. As A Gift From God A Mother Should Be Respected (Dt.21:18-21; Prov.20:20).

Ex.20:12: "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you."

Ex.21:15: "And he who strikes his father or his mother shall surely be put to death."

Ex.21:17: "And he who curses his father or his mother shall surely be put to death."

Lev.20:9: "For everyone who curses his father or his mother shall surely be put to death. He has cursed his father or his mother. His blood shall be upon him."

Dt.27:16: "Cursed is the one who treats his father or his mother with contempt. And all the people shall say, Amen!"

Prov.6:20-21: "My son, keep your father's command, and do not forsake the law of your mother. 21 Bind them continually upon your heart; Tie them around your neck."

Prov.10:1: "The proverbs of Solomon: A wise son makes a glad father, but a foolish son is the grief of his mother."

Prov.19:26: "He who mistreats his father and chases away his mother is a son who causes shame and brings reproach."

Prov.23:23-26: "Buy the truth, and do not sell it, also wisdom and instruction and understanding. 24 The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice, and he who begets a wise child will delight in him. 25 Let your father and your mother be glad, and let her who bore you rejoice. 26 My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes observe my ways."

Prov.30:17: "The eye that mocks his father, And scorns obedience to his mother, The ravens of the valley will pick it out, And the young eagles will eat it."

2. As A Gift From God Mothers Are A Spiritual Means Of Grace

(a) The teaching role of a mother.

2 Tim.1:5-6: "When I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also."

(b) The example of a mother.

Matt.5:16: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

3. As A Gift From God Mothers Are To Be Respected In Many Ways

(a) Obedience.

Eph.1:1-3: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise: 3 "that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth."

Col.3:20: "Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord."

Prov.1:8: “My son, hear the instruction of your father, and do not forsake the law of your mother.

Prov.23:22: “Listen to your father who begot you, and do not despise your mother when she is old.”

(b) Honor and Respect.

Ex.20:12: “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.”

(c) Help with Physical or Material Needs.

Matt.15:1-6: “Then the scribes and Pharisees who were from Jerusalem came to Jesus, saying, 2 “Why do Your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread.” 3 He answered and said to them, “Why do you also transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition? 4 For God commanded, saying, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.’ 5 But you say, ‘Whoever says to his father or mother, “Whatever profit you might have received from me is a gift to God”— 6 then he need not honor his father or mother.’ Thus you have made the commandment of God of no effect by your tradition.”

Prov.28:24: “Whoever robs his father or his mother, and says, “It is no transgression,” The same is companion to a destroyer.”

4. The Example Of Jesus In His Relationship With His Earthy Mother

(John 19:25-27).

V.25: “Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.”

(1) Note Mary’s dedication as a mother and a believer.

V.26: When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, “Woman, behold your son!”

(2) In addressing his earthly mother, Jesus both acknowledges His Lordship over her and recognizes her motherhood over him and her emotional suffering.

V.27: “Then He said to the disciple, “Behold your mother!” And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.”

(3) In denying Himself on the cross, Jesus was concerned about His mother’s present and future welfare.

APPLICATION:

1. Are you obedient, respectful, and helpful to your mother?
2. Do you manifest the character of Christ in your relationship with your mother?