

Mother

Defined: a mother (as the bond of the family); in a wide sense (both literally and figuratively); (Strong's).

Mothers have one of the greatest and gravest responsibilities ever imposed upon mankind. It is filled with joys and wrought with sorrows, but in the end bears grandchildren who make it all worthwhile (I thought I'd add that little bit of reality, ret).

Although mothers have been lied to by the self-styled women of the present era, childbearing remains a noble calling and a godly choice. The apostle Paul, as he was directed by the Holy Spirit, said, "she shall be saved through her child-bearing, if they continue in faith and love and sanctification with sobriety" (1 Tim. 2:15). The implications of the statement are worthy for men and women to understand and pass along to their sons and daughters.

The apostle Paul said, concerning the young man Timothy, "having been reminded of the unfeigned faith that is in thee; which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and, I am persuaded, in thee also" (2 Tim. 1:5). This is a tribute to a mother who taught a daughter who in like manner taught her son. No doubt these women could concur with the apostle John, saying "Greater joy have I none than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth" (3 Jn. 4). Without paternal leadership, how will a child be raised to know the truth? In the hands of every mother lies a hope for the next generation.

To mothers, the Lord says: (1) "But speak thou the things which befit the sound doctrine: that aged men be temperate, grave, sober-minded, sound in faith, in love, in patience: that aged women likewise be reverent in demeanor, not slanderers nor enslaved to much wine, teachers of that which is good; that they may train the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be sober-minded, chaste, workers at home, kind, being in subjection to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed" (Titus 2:1-5). (2) Teach your children. Solomon said to his son, "forsake not the law of thy mother" (Prov. 1:8). Children, take to heart and rejoice in a godly mother, for you are "Tender and only beloved in the sight of [your] mother" (Prov. 4:3). When children "rise up, and call her blessed" (Prov. 31:28), they "Let thy father and thy mother be glad, And let her that bare thee rejoice" (Prov. 23:25).

When the Law was given to Israel, God said, "Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long in the land which Jehovah thy God giveth thee" (Exod. 20:12; Eph. 6:1-2). Children, "Trust in Jehovah with all thy heart, And lean not upon thine own understanding" (Prov. 3:5), and "forsake not the law of thy mother: Bind them continually upon thy heart; Tie them about thy neck" (Prov. 6:20-21), and "let her that bare thee rejoice" (Prov. 23:25). ret