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God's Tribute To Mothers

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GOD'S TRIBUTE TO MOTHERS

I. Today's sermon is especially chosen for a special reason. I believe you will heartily agree with the appropriateness of it. Why?

1. Aesop: "Gratitude is the sign of NOBLE souls." Good morning! noble souls!!!!

2. BATE quote: "Cicero, This man calls gratitude the mother of virtues, the most capital of all duties, and uses the words GRATEFUL and Good as synonymous terms---inseparably united in the same character."

Where did these fellows, and many more like them, get all this wisdom about being GRATEFUL?

1st: from the Great King Solomon in Prov. 3:27: "Withhold NOT good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thy hand to give it!" B. C. 1,000. Old wisdom !!!

2nd: from the Great Apostle Paul: Romans 13:7-8. A. D. 60. Still a cherished virtue then!

3rd: from the Great Savior and Lord - Jesus. Matt. 22:21 "Render therefore unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's; the things unto God that are God's" and the praise and love unto Mothers that are due mothers. (Actually, I added that last 3rd to the text, but it certainly does no harm nor violence to the nature of God's world!!! Don't forget to thank your mommas, esp. on Mother's day. Why?

II. A MOTHER'S LOVE AND INFLUENCE ARE SURPASSED ONLY BY THE GRACE & MERCY OF HEAVEN ITSELF !!

A. The Bible is replete with the love, actions and references to mothers: 112 times total. Mother, alone: 43. His mother: 51. My mother: 28. Thy mother: 25. Mothers- plural: 7 times. She dominates a lot of time and space in Bible times.

III. FAMOUS MEN OF OUR TIMES HAVE NOT BEEN FORGETFUL OF THE ROLE THEIR MOTHERS PLAYED IN THEIR FAME AND SUCCESS. *♥ said so.*

1. A fellow named ANONOMOUS said: "The God of Heaven has not chosen to be everywhere at once, so He made mothers!" I agree.

2. Ralph Waldo Emerson: "Men are what their MOTHERS make them." I think it is fair to share a little of that glory with the dads many times. Don't you-----dads??

3. Abraham Lincoln, 16th American president, "All that I am or hope to be I owe to my angel-mother."

4. Napoleon Bonaparte, Emperor of France. (1769-1821) He was no dummy! "The future destiny of the child is always the work of the mother." *Prov. 22:6.*

Finally:

5. Billy Sunday: Famous American evangelist: "I don't believe there are enough DEVILS in hell or on earth to take a youngster from the loving arms of a Godly mother."

IV. (Remaining time:) ODYSSES of three Great Bible Mothers:

A. Great Bible premise and truth: God repeatedly affirmed "For with God NOTHING shall be impossible." Lk. 1:37. PERMIT ME TO ILLUSTRATE THIS:

1. MOTHER SARAI *→ Princess!* (Back then, a woman was of little value until she bore her husband a son)

(Gen. 12-21) a. Barren into her 65th year/passing time of child-bearing..when left Ur of Chaldeas Abram promised a man-child from age: 75 to age 99. Involved Sarah, barren Sarah! Abram given a man-child at age 100!! Sarah, age: 90! Nothing impossible-God ABRAM chg. to ABRAHAM, meaning "father of many nations." Gen. 17:4. SARAI'S name chg. to SARAH (mother of nations.) Gen. 17:6 "Mother of Kings !!!" Sarah is a hero among women of all time: I Pet. 3:1-7.

2. "Fullness of God!"

2. MOTHER ELIZABETH: (Of little value until she bore her husband a son.) Elizabeth !!!
- a. From a family of priests of the tribe of Aaron. Given Aaron's wife name: ↑
 - b. Her husband a priest, of the order of Abijah.
 - c. Description of the couple. Both righteous before God. Walked in commandments—all were blameless in obeying God's ordinances.
 - d. PROBLEM: Elizabeth had not given Zacharias a son! Now too old to bear a child.
 - e. SOLUTION: Angel to Zach. Eliza. to do the impossible. Lk. 1:37. / well advanced!
 - f. Son described: Name: John—(gift of the Lord.) He will be great! Will turn many in Israel to the Lord. Make the Messiah's paths straight. Child grew and became strong in the Spirit and in the Lord; like the Prophet Elijah.
 - g. Elizabeth was a hero-mother to all the girls & women in the 1st Century etc.etc.

3. MOTHER MARY: "Exalted" (The subject of the most-impossible feat of all women, anywhere, any way, at any time !!!)
- a. Girls often married in Christ's day, beginning at age 12. (Boys usually 4-6 yrs. older.) Governed by education.
 - b. Mary was betroth (engaged) to Joseph—same value as marriage, but really a 1-year waiting period before living-together.
 - c. Angel Gabriel brought Mary a message direct from God, the Creator. "bring forth a son (before marriage) named Jesus—"Savior".)
 - d. A Virgin-Birth: vs. 1:37. "FOR WITH GOD NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE!" (Could have made Jesus' body of the dust of the ground --- like Adam's.) miracles all!
 - e. Messages from Heaven: "Mary, you have found special favor with God!"
"Your baby-boy will be great! He will be called the Son of the Highest - God."
"God will give Him the coveted throne of King David!"
"Jesus will rule over the house of Jacob forever!"
"His Kingdom will never end!"
 - f. RESULTS: "And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him."
"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man."
g. Mary's Song: Lk. 1:46-55. Two excerpts: (Lk. 1:40 and 52.)
- Luke 1: (1. vs. 46-47. An expression of the deepest DEVOTION to God.
(2. vs. 48-49. A prophecy from Mary the Prophetess! All generations call me blessed.

NOTE: Perhaps Mary, in a way, was representative of all MOTHERHOOD. She gave birth to THE SON OF GOD...while all other mothers are commissioned to give birth to all future sons of Almighty God.

INV: Wouldn't this be the most wonderful mother's day of all mother's days if every Christian mother knew the glorious blessing of knowing that her husband is a true son of God and each of her children faithfully rise up each Lord's day and call the Lord BLESSED.

This can happen if every husband or child, who has not surrendered to the Savior in baptism, would do so before leaving this building.

OR any family members are out of duty....meaning out of harmony with the sweet-will of God for them.

Any such action would make a very happy momma or mommas, and more important than that....it would make the Father in Heaven rejoice with the angels in the glory land.

If you have a spiritual need, please come during this song, and let us assist you in your obedience RIGHT NOW!

Gal. 3:26-27