

Mothers . . . On their Special Day

Judges 5:7

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Monday: 4 May, 2007 . . . Seat 1A . . . U S. Airways flight from Washington D. C. to Nashville, TN Darrell Wilson. On his way home from Iraq via two days in Germany and two months at Walter Reed Hospital.
- B. **Judges 5:7** – "Village life ceased, it ceased in Israel, Until I, Deborah, arose, Arose a mother in Israel."

Certainly the Bible recognizes women in positions of power - women who contributed to making the world a better place.
THERE WAS

- **Miriam** who led the people in praising God after the crossing of the Red Sea (Exodus 15:21)
- **Ruth** who put God first and became the ancestress of King David (Ruth 1:16;4:17),
- **Deborah**, a judge in Israel (Judges 5)
- **Hannah** who "lent to the Lord" the child of her prayers (1Samuel 1:28)
- **Esther** who took her life in her hands to plead for her doomed people, the widow whose obedience sustained the prophet Elijah (1Kings 17:9-16)
- A **little captive maid** who told Naaman's wife of the man of God who could cure Naaman of his leprosy (2 Kings 5:2-4)
- The **woman who anointed Jesus** with the expensive ointment (Mk14:3)
- The **poor widow's** gift of two mites which won Jesus' praise (Mark 12:43), Mary who gave birth to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords (Luke 1:28)
- **Martha** who served and **Mary** who sat at the feet of Jesus (Luke 10:38-42),
- **Mary Magdalene** who brought spices to anoint Jesus, who first greeted the risen Lord and who received the first commission –"Go tell" (John 20:17-18; Mk 16:9) . . . And women have been going and telling every since, haven't they!!!
- **Lydia** one of the first converts in Macedonia (Acts 16:14), Dorcas - full of good works (Acts 9:36),

- **Phebe & Priscilla** - servants of the church (Ro 16:1-4) Note: In Romans 16 for example, it is interesting to note that of the twenty-six people who Paul singles out for his personal greeting, six were women
- **Lois** and **Eunice** who had sincere faith (2Tim 1:5),
- **Persis** "the beloved" and **Tryphena** and **Tryphosa** who labored for the Lord (Romans 16:12)

So being a mother does not suggest lack of initiative and ability. It does mean getting priorities straight. It doesn't mean freeing men from all responsibility with young children. It means sharing responsibility but recognizing gifts.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (the American essayist) said "People are what their mothers make them."

Abraham Lincoln said "All that I am or hope to be I owe to my angel mother."

Most of the greats throughout history have had dedicated mothers. I find it interesting to note that Nero's mother was a murderess, and that the rather dissolute Lord Byron had a mother who was proud and violent.

But let's be quick to acknowledge that Christianity has lifted, in a wonderful way, the status of womanhood. In many parts of the world women are still considered almost a beast of burden. It was Jesus Christ who elevated womanhood, and it was Paul the apostle who said that in Christ there is neither male nor female.

Perhaps you may have heard of Lord Shaftesbury's statement "**Give me a generation of Christian mothers, and I will undertake to change the whole face of society in twelve months.**" It is true to say that the influence of a mother in her home upon the lives of her children cannot be measured. The mother-infant bond is an intense relationship of unparalleled human affection. It is the foundation of the child's emotional and physical survival.

1. First, mothers should be saluted for their tenacious love.
2. Secondly, mothers should be saluted for the tremendous impact they have.
3. Third, mothers should be saluted for being partners with God in helping to bring life into this world.
 - a. Through them you were brought into this world and provided a home.
 - b. How wonderful for mother's who will help you have provision for a home beyond the one they provided for you here in this life.
4. Fourth, mothers should be saluted because where they are, that is where home is.

CONCLUSION:

A. A MOTHERS' DAY CREED

- I believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, who was born of the promise to a virgin named Mary.
- I believe in the love Mary gave her Son, that caused her to follow him in his ministry and stand by his cross as he died.
- I believe in the love of all mothers, and its importance in the lives of the children they bear.
- It is stronger than steel, softer than down, and more resilient than a green sapling on the hillside.
- It closes wounds, melts disappointments, and enables the weakest child to stand tall and straight in the fields of adversity.
- I believe that this love, even at its best, is only the shadow love of God, a dark reflection of all that we expect of him in this life and the next.
- And I believe that one of the most beautiful sights in the world is a mother who lets this greater love flow through her to her child, blessing the world with the tenderness of her touch and the tears of her joy.

B. Thank God for mothers, and thank mothers for helping us understand God!

C. God's Plan for Man's Salvation