

Lighthouse Bible Church

May 12th, 2013 Mother's Day

The Mother of all living - The Eternal Importance of Motherhood

Genesis 2: 15 – 25, 3: 20 *Scripture reading Proverbs 31: 10 - 31*

Stand – Read – Pray

We are taking a break, this mothers day, from the book of John to look at the first mother, who is the mother of all living, who is the mother of us all.

We want to look back at the very first mother recorded in scripture and the eternal importance of her motherhood and how that same importance of motherhood applies to you today.

First of all, let us see where the first mother came from. We see that in **Genesis 2: 21 – 25 Read. Genesis 3: 20 says and Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.**

Think about it like this; back in **Genesis 2: 16 – 17** God told Adam of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die. Adam, at some point, relates this to Eve so she now knows that if you partake of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you will die. She knows this, because she tells this to the serpent when he comes to her in Genesis Chapter 3. Look at Verses 1 – 3.

And of course as scriptures goes on to record, she is deceived into eating the fruit of the forbidden tree and offers it to Adam, who eats it freely. Now their eyes are opened and they see their nakedness and now they ARE ashamed.

God comes to them in the garden and confronts them with their sin of rebellion and disobedience and Adam blames Eve and Eve blames the serpent and God doesn't even let the serpent speak.

Then in Chapter 3 Verses 14 – 19 we have God's curse on the serpent, the woman and the man. I want you to notice the curse against the serpent, which is actually against Satan himself in **Genesis 3: 15** and **I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head and you shall bruise His heel.**

I think the man and woman were close enough to hear the curse on the serpent because of what Eve says in Genesis Chapter 4. Look at **Genesis 4: 1** **Adam knew Eve his wife and she conceived and bore Cain and said 'I have acquired a man from the Lord.'** Look at **Genesis 4: 25** and **Adam knew his wife again and she bore a son and named him Seth for God has appointed ANOTHER SEED for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed.**

She is already looking for the appointed **seed** that would come from her that would bruise the head of the serpent. Little did she know that that seed would come through the Holy Spirit to Mary at the birth of Christ and that His death on the cross **destroyed him who had the power of death, the serpent, the Devil** as **Hebrews 2: 14** says.

Now had God carried through with his promise that **they would both surely die** when they ate of the tree, motherhood would have ended before it ever began. But because of God's grace and mercy, even in the curse, He had an eternal plan for motherhood and the redemption of mankind. She deserved death and God gave her mercy while still upholding His justice and judgment.

Eve is thinking that she should die because of her sin and disobedience to God's word and yet she is hearing Him say to the serpent that she will have an important seed, an important birth.

Then, when God curses her, He says **in will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; in pain you shall bring forth children...**

Through the curse of the serpent and her own curse, she hears that she is going to be a mother someday, the **mother of all living** as **Genesis 3: 20** will say. What was one of her responsibilities as a mother? **Genesis 1: 28** says **Then God blessed them and said to them 'be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it'**. The fundamental human responsibility of mothers and fathers is produce more mothers and fathers.

Listen, they could not fill the earth and subdue it themselves that is why motherhood and fatherhood are so vital to the plan of God. One that should still be carried out today.

That is why Eve said in Genesis 4: 1 **I have acquired a man from the Lord.** She understood her God given responsibility to motherhood and the carrying on of that in the bearing of children that could bear other children. She just thought that this first one, Cain, was the seed prophesied from Genesis 3: 15 but he wasn't.

So in Genesis 4: 25 she has another son named Seth and she thinks this is the seed prophesied in Genesis 3: 15 and he was not. He would just be in the lineage **Luke 3: 38** says that would lead to the ultimate seed Jesus Christ.

So, in essence, her being a mother, and the mother of all living, and fulfilling God's command to fill all the earth, effected the entire human race for all eternity. If Eve does not become a mother then God's entire plan for crushing Satan would not come to pass and God's plan for salvation would be lost.

By the way, the first mother and mother of us all, recognized the importance of children and where her children came from right. She said **I have acquired a man FROM THE LORD.**

Listen to **Psalm 139: 13 – 17** *Read*

Psalm 127: 3 says **behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb is a reward**

In **1st Samuel 1: 27** you remember Hanna, who was barren for so long, prayed for a son and then she conceived and said **for this child I prayed and the Lord has granted me my petition which I asked of Him.**

You can read how many times God opened and closed the womb according to His will and the blessing that resulted when God granted motherhood to a barren woman. No child is a surprise to God because children are a gift from Him. The mother who bears children may or may not know this side of heaven the eternal impact she and her child or children will have for all eternity. But Mary knew.

There are countless times that children were born that went on to impact the world for all eternity, especially those who became born again believes that then shared the gospel that led others to Christ and eternal salvation.

Think of the faithful mother turned grandmother named Lois and her daughter turned mother named Eunice who bore a son named Timothy 2nd Timothy 1: 5 says, that they taught him **from childhood the Holy Scriptures** 2nd Timothy 3: 15 says.

Deuteronomy 6: 5 – 7a: you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your strength and these words which I command you today shall be in YOUR heart and once they are you shall teach them diligently to your children...

Realizing that there are times when mother's children don't always listen or obey or live like the mothers and fathers want them too, it can cause great emotional distress, grief and disappointment those mothers and fathers.

Proverbs 10: 1 says a wise son makes a glad father but a foolish son is a grief to his mother.

Proverbs 17: 25 says a foolish son is a grief to his father and bitterness to her who bore him.

Proverbs 19: 26 says he who mistreats his father and chases away his mother is a son who causes shame and brings reproach. As a matter of fact Proverbs 30: 17 says they 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. That is right in the center of an indictment against a generation of children who curses their father and mother, not so unlike today.

Mothers and fathers, you are called to love your children enough to discipline them from such behavior and you do it with an object, not your hand. You see that in *Proverbs 13: 24, 19: 18, 22: 15, 22: 13 – 14.*

That is why **Proverbs 29: 15** says **the rod and rebuke give wisdom but a child left to himself brings shame to his mother.**

Listen, if we go back to Genesis, we see that God's plan for women is motherhood, in most cases there may be some exceptions, and that can only happen in the context of what is said in **Genesis 2: 24** **therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife and they shall become one flesh.**

The plan of God for being fruitful and multiplying the earth can only be accomplished as God set it out, between one man and one woman. Any other type of marriage, two men or two women, goes against God's institution for marriage and His plan for procreation and filling the earth and impacting humanity for all eternity.

Listen, it is always assumed in biblical marriage, between one man and one woman in a monogamous permanent joining or gluing together relationship, it will produce children. Again, there are exceptions, but by and large that is God's pattern.

And those exceptions can be a blessing from God in that they have a greater capacity to serve God in their singleness or barrenness. They have an opportunity to be used by God as His instruments as someone who cares for the fatherless and orphans that God uniquely watches over.

Those of you who have the privilege of being mothers here today, we applaud you for serving God in such a profound way and serving your family in such a crucial way.

And for those of you who are looking forward to motherhood, we trust that God will use you as He has many here to impact the kingdom of heaven on earth and for all eternity.

My prayer for you mothers here today would be that of the writer of **Proverbs 31: 25 – 31**

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'The Eternal Importance of Motherhood'

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The Mother of all living

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The Forbidden Fruit

Genesis 3: 1 – 3

The Consequences of Disobedience

Genesis 3: 14 – 19

The Seed of the Woman

Genesis 4: 1, 25, Hebrews 2: 14, Luke 3: 38

Be Fruitful and Multiply

Genesis 1: 28

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Psalm 139: 13 – 17, Psalm 127: 3

1st Samuel 1: 27, 2nd Timothy 1: 5, 3: 15

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The Grief and Disappointment to Mother's and Father's

Proverbs 10: 1, 17: 25, 19: 26, 30: 17

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Proverbs 13: 24, 19: 18, 22: 15, 23: 13 – 14

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The Fruitfulness of Marriage

Genesis 2: 24, Proverbs 31: 25 – 31

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