

Scriptural Truths

E-Mail Meditations

The Lord Will Come . . . Perhaps Today . . . Behold, I Come Quickly . . . Rev. 22:7

No. 123

May 2022

Mother's Day

In years gone long past I would sing to my mum the old Al Jolson song, "My Mammy". I sang it and it was all in fun. However, now that she is home in Heaven, how I wish I could sing it to her again, but this time with true emotion and feeling. Dad's are important but there is no one like "mum". Having spoken to many individuals there was a common thread, when mum died everything in the family changed. Her home was always open to us and we knew we were loved beyond words.

To my mind the two sweetest words in English are "Mother" and "Home" in that order. How many of us go back to see the old home where we were brought up, or where we went on vacation, and when we do, most often it is associated with "mum". Truly are the words of the old Irish song, "A mother's love is a blessing":

A mother's love is a blessing
No matter where you roam,
Keep her while she's living,
You'll miss her when she's gone.
Love her as in childhood,
When feeble, old and grey,
For you'll never miss a mother's love
'Til she's buried beneath the clay.

Meditation

In today's world I see two tragic happenings. One is the genocide in Ukraine and the other is the abortion of babies. In the one I see mothers holding their little infant close to them while bullets are being fired at them and bombs exploding, all the while breaking their hearts. I see mothers holding their dead infants and little ones bodies being put into a common grave. The bodies of little helpless children, through no fault of their own, their little bodies are writhing in pain and streaked with blood. Then I think of those who would be mothers who choose to have an abortion and go to a place where the unborn infant is being literally pulled apart while alive and I see the savagery of humanity. When a would be mother deliberately sees the parts of her baby being counted to make sure the baby is completely removed, I ask, "Where is the motherly compassion?"

The scriptures record an interesting statement of Joseph when he was presenting his sons to his father. He said, "They are my sons, whom God hath given me" (Gen. 48:9). He recognized the truth that it was God who gave his wife and he the two sons, for He knew all life came from God. Man is not an accident and children are not an accident, they are given by God. That brings into light several considerations:

a) Are they mine or am I a steward of that which God has entrusted to me?

The life of that little child whatever age they are, are God's gift to remind me of:

- i) The passing of life. I recall seeing a grandfather push the buggy of his little grandchild and it came to my mind, grandparents dote on their grandchildren not only due to love, but they are oftentimes their last hold on life.
- ii) Generations come one after another and in a very short time we mums and dads will be unknown from the pages of history. The question is, particularly as a mum (because she has the greatest influence on her children), what am I leaving my children and grandchildren? I can leave them money which is very useful, or property which can be nice, but when the Lord was tempted in the first temptation His response was, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matt. 4:4). The Lord was speaking of more than physical bread. He was answering the question, "What is life?" Is it nothing more than the nourishing of the body, the intellectual training or the achievement of earth?" Good as they are, "Do they give life or satisfy?" What is the greatest blessing a mum can leave her children?
 1. It is the spiritual legacy of a mother's prayers and example. My old grandma had nothing of this world's luxuries. She never had a car, never went to high school, but she prayed for her boys and girls, all ten of them. She lived to see every one of her children saved. One became a missionary to South America, another became a deep bible teacher, the girls all grew to become godly mothers. The example she left her family was an elderly lady who would get down on her knees and pray out loud to God to save her boys and girls. Today every one of them is in Heaven, all of them lived for the things of God. She showed them what the priority in life was and what true life is.

b) Why did God entrust the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well being of that child to me?

- i) As we ponder that question, like the parents of Samson we need divine wisdom and parental consideration and compassion. His parents asked the angel of the Lord, "How shall we order the child?" (Jud. 13:12). I expect if this question was asked today many would not like the answer which would be along the tenor of, "Concentrate on the child/children's spiritual awareness". Moses' mother, Jochebed, only had her son for a short time, until he was weaned. He was then taken from her, just a little boy, and highly educated in all the wisdom of Pharaoh. He was brought up in a palace and country which had multiple gods and goddesses, always being indoctrinated into him. How would the child survive spiritually? No doubt Jochebed sang Jewish hymns to him, taught him the ancient scriptures and the dealings of God with Adam, Abraham, Seth, Noah, etc. He would have been taught the serious error of forsaking the God of Israel. Consequently, when the time came for testing, despite the fact some 40 years had passed, her teaching remained with him. The secret was, "she nursed the child" (Ex. 2:9), that is, she gave of herself to the child. I am not speaking physically, while that is true, but she gave of herself spiritually. The lesson is so clear. She could never have nourished the child physically or spiritually had she not been nourished herself.

Concluding Thoughts

There is coming a day when every saved mother will stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ and will have to give an account of her stewardship. How did she work with God in the developing of the child in every level? What were her priorities, things of her children's spiritual welfare? What did she leave her children in her legacy? What will His assessment of my life be? When we read of Timothy there is no mention of his father or grandfather, only his mother and grandmother! They taught him the word of God and not just Bible stories but lessons so that from a child he had known the Holy Scriptures.

May the Lord help all mothers to gather her children around her for Bible instruction, to teach them Bible verses alphabetically and according to age, and to pray with them and for them. That is a legacy worth bestowing.

... Rowan Jennings



If you don't wish to receive future Newsletters, please send us an email and we will take your name off the Mailing List.