



HAPPY
MOTHER'S
DAY

Women — A Blessing From God

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L'Amable Bible Chapel

Lamablebiblechapel.com

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Introduction

- A look at women in Scripture
- *Key ideas*
- Are all women mothers or married?
- Both women and men can find meaning...



A Look At...

- History
- Challenge
- Celebration



1. History: what is the first 'negative' in the Bible?



- Genesis 1 an Overview
- Genesis 2 is Detailed

⁸ *Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed.* ⁹ *The LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.*



- Evil is identified
- Death is identified
- Adam's need is identified
- Eve's likeness...

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die."

¹⁸ The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."



- Procreation to fill the earth-God's plan
- Purpose and Risk

²⁰ Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living. (Genesis 3--a sign of hope)

²² Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

*²³ The man said,
“This is now bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called ‘woman,’
for she was taken out of man.”
(Gen. 2)*

Motherhood follows, with joy and sorrow...



- Eve not punished for being a mother, but like Adam, the ‘pains of life’ will increase...
- A promise is given...

3:¹⁵ *And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.*

- Joy & Sorrow
- The human story
- God has a plan of redemption
- For example...



¹⁸ So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. ¹⁹ All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds—everything that moves on land—came out of the ark, one kind after another.

²⁰ Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it.

21 The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: “Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done.



- After the flood
- Humanity increases, so does sin
- Promise to Abraham
- Does it end in slavery?





2. Challenge:

- Many mothers commended in Scripture
- Jochebed, the mother of Moses (cf. Num. 26:59)

²³ By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. (Heb. 11)

- How would the world have changed without this one mother?

- Hannah
- Like Jochebed, Hannah also gives up her son
- Samuel serves at the Tent of Meeting as Priest & Leader...



“For the foundations of the earth are the LORD’s; on them he has set the world. ⁹ He will guard the feet of his faithful servants, but the wicked will be silenced in the place of darkness.” (1 Sam. 2)

- How would the world have changed without this one mother?

- Many others
- Elizabeth and Mary
- Both sons given to God
- Both sons will die for the Lord



- How have these two mothers changed the world?

⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³ But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? (Luke 2)



- Can we imagine Mary's grief?

- It is through the Divine-human child Jesus that we are saved

²⁵ Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son," ²⁷ and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home. (John 19)

- Tradition says Mary later lived in Ephesus, with John imprisoned on Patmos

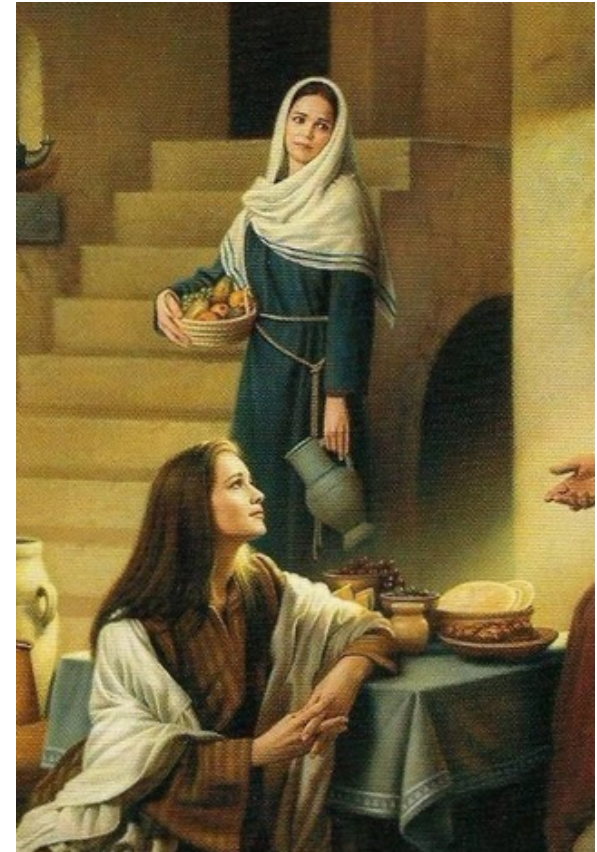
⁹ I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. (Revelation 1)



Discipleship does not demand Motherhood...



- A number of prominent single women in Scripture
- Miriam has no family
- Anna in the temple
- Martha & Mary?
- Mary Magdalene
- Dorcas (Acts 9)
- Lydia (Acts 16)



- **Acts 9:36-41 — Dorcas**

³⁶ In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor.

³⁷ About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. ³⁸ Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, “Please come at once!”

³⁹ Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.

- A group of devoted widows
- Service is not prevented by singleness...

Dorcas -
Touching
Lives &
MORE...
Acts 9:36-43



⁴⁰ Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, “Tabitha, get up.” She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. ⁴¹ He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive.

- Philip's family...

⁷ We continued our voyage from Tyre and landed at Ptolemais, where we greeted the brothers and sisters and stayed with them for a day. ⁸ Leaving the next day, we reached Caesarea and stayed at the house of Philip the evangelist, one of the Seven. ⁹ He had four unmarried daughters who prophesied. (Acts 21)



- Many women mentioned in the church in Rome



¹² Greet Tryphena and Tryphosa, those women who work hard in the Lord.

Greet my dear friend Persis, another woman who has worked very hard in the Lord.

¹³ Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother, who has been a mother to me, too.

¹⁴ Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas and the other brothers and sisters with them.

¹⁵ Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas and all the Lord's people who are with them. (Romans 16)

- What about missions?
- Many missionaries have been single women



- Others have been “missionary widows”

“For the next four years Winnie was a missionary widow half the time. The three and four month sessions when Ken was in Hong Kong were not pleasant but Winnie had long before learned...it was merely part of the cross her Master asked her to carry...” (McGillivray story)



- Bible history is filled with Godly women
 - In the modern world?
 - Relationship with God
 - Family
 - Discipleship in the Church
 - Societal roles
 - Marital & non-marital expectations
-
- The challenges for mothers and women in general are found in Scripture, Christian history, and in Society

3. Celebration



She opens
her mouth
with wisdom
and the teaching
of kindness
is on her tongue
Proverbs 31:26

3. Celebration

- Our social roles can be a comfort...
- Let's celebrate these...
 - A Loving Heart
 - A Lavish Nurture
 - A Listening Ear



- Possibilities & Impossibilities

- Godliness begins with who?



- A Loving Heart
- A Lavish Nurture
- A Listening Ear

- This is not only for women, not only for mothers, not only for families

Conclusion

- 1 Peter 2 has real wisdom:



¹Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. ²Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³now that you have tasted that the Lord is good...

⁹...You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.



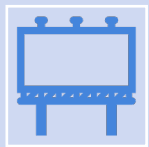
- As a Church, the Bride of Christ, we celebrate all that mothers symbolize—as we await his return...



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Scriptures from NIV



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