

Behold Thy Mother

Introduction

My Father had such a profound influence on who I have become.

- There are at least two ways that mothers have influenced their children:
 - Directly and Indirectly
 - I didn't understand how much of my father's strength was from my mother until after she passed.
 - Concrete is a strong building material, but it can be brittle. Steel also has qualities of strength, but it is bendable. However, when steel rebar is placed inside concrete it takes on the strong qualities of both materials, overcoming the weaknesses of each.
 - Proverbs 12:4, "An excellent wife is the crown of her husband"

I. My Mothers' Legacy

A. There have been many women in my life that have that have contributed to my being and character.

1. Linda Collett & Louise DeBolt were my Lois and Eunice.
"when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also." 2 Tim. 1:5
2. My wife, who stepped into a role of motherhood at a very young age, taking on not only the challenge of partially grown daughters, but also the care of a special needs child.
"An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels." Prov. 31:10
3. No doubt that her character has been based on the women of her past, Lynn Fry and Serena Kenny, whom I now have the blessing of having in my life as well.
Titus 2:4-5, "that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, **5 to be** discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed."
4. Motherhood is not always based on blood and genetics, there have been several women that have been an influence in my life. Unfortunately, my mother passed in June of 2008, which left a traumatic void in me, even though I still feel the profound presence of my mother within my character. A few years back, I met a very special lady who became like a mother to me, Colleen Buck.
5. There is yet one more who comes to mind every day of my life, who bears such admirable qualities of motherhood. I can see a continually growing mother figure in her, Hannah Collett. In whom, it is my goal to develop with the help of all of these women into a very unique gift that I may someday give to a young man worthy of such a prize.

Sunday, May 14th, 2017

II. A Cultural Misconception of Motherhood

A. A War on Gender Roles

1. The title of housewife, homemaker, and mother has been degraded by many in our current feminist culture.
2. One of the reasons that abortion is being advocated as a right for women is so that they are not burdened with the task of being a mother, so that an education and career are not forsaken.
3. Gender roles were first set forth by God. Genesis 3:16, Titus 2:5, 1 Peter 3:1-6

B. With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility

1. Following the instruction concerning authority in the church and women's silence in the worship assembly, Paul wrote the inspired words, "nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control." 1 Timothy 2:15
2. The phrase "barefoot & pregnant" is a very demeaning phrase denoting a concept to keep women under control, that is NOT what God instituted.
3. W R Wallace coined the famous phrase that "the hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world."
4. "In a child's eyes, a mother is a goddess. She can be glorious or terrible, benevolent or filled with wrath, but she commands love either way. I am convinced that this is the greatest power in the universe." N.K. Jemisin, **The Hundred Thousand Kingdoms** (2010)

III. The Virtuous Wife - Proverbs 31:10-31

- A. A Homemaker
- B. A Farmer/Shepherd
- C. A Business Woman
- D. A Manager
- E. A Realtor
- F. A Merchant
- G. A Seamstress
- H. A Judge
- I. A MOTHER...

So where are you, women of virtue?

Where are you, mothers who respect the Lord and the position that He has given to you?

We appreciate you for answering the call that God has given to you and would like to say, "Thank you!"