Mothers: The Good, The Bad, And The Godly

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday May 13th, 2018

Text: Prov. 1:8; 6:20

### Intro

1. The beginning of Mother’s Day:
	1. On October 9, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson declared the second Sunday of each May as “Mother’s Day,” a special day to honor mothers of this nation.
	2. This national holiday has grown in popularity.
	3. Though this is a special one-time event each year, we all should honor our mothers on a daily basis – especially those who are pleasing to God.
2. There are many lessons that we can learn from mothers – lessons that help us define love and sacrifice, and examples that serve as warning of what not to do! (Prov. 1:8; 6:20)
3. We will consider the examples of mothers in light of the Good, the Bad, and the Godly!

#### The Good – Physical Well-being

* 1. Bathsheba – I Kings 1:15-21
		1. On the counsel of Nathan the prophet *(1:11-14)* Bathsheba went to David and asked about his promise to make Solomon king in light of Adonijah’s claims.
		2. If Adonijah *(David’s 4th son, II Sam. 3:4)* became king, she and Solomon would be in jeopardy (I Kings 1:21).
		3. *She was concerned for his physical well-being.*
		4. I Kings 1:28-31: David assured Bathsheba his promise would be done that day and Solomon would be king *(just as God promised David – I Chr. 22:9-10).*
		5. I Chr. 29:25: God “highly exalted Solomon” more than any other king over Israel!
		6. She was a loving, protective mother to Solomon!
	2. Noteworthy Mentions:
		1. Sarah – *Gen. 21:1-14:* She looked out for Isaac’s physical well-being!
		2. Mother of James and John (Wife of Zebedee) – *Mt. 20:20-23:* Though she didn’t understand “the kingdom” she was a loving, protective mother!
	3. To love and want to protect your children is a good trait for a mother to possess!

#### The Bad – Ungodly Influences

* 1. Jezebel – I Kings 21:25
		1. I Kings 16:30-31: King Ahab of Israel married Jezebel (Phoenician princess of Tyre, daughter of King Ethbaal of Sidonians) and became an idolater!
		2. I Kings 18:3-4: Jezebel hunted down and killed the prophets of God.
		3. I Kings 19:1-2: After the false prophets were killed at Carmel, Jezebel threatened the life of Elijah!
		4. I Kings 21:5-15: She orchestrated the lies against and mock trial for Naboth to have him killed so that Ahab could just take his ancestral vineyard.
		5. Her ungodly influence over her family caused their deaths:
			1. I Kings 22:51-53: Ahaziah, their son, walked in all the evil of his father and mother and it caused his death (II Kings 1:16-17).
			2. II Kings 9:22-24, 27: Jehu killed Joram their son for his wickedness as well as Ahaziah their grandson (son of Athaliah and Jehoram of Judah).
			3. II Chr. 22:3-5: Athaliah, like her mother, was a an evil influence on her son “to his destruction” (II Chr. 22:7). She was so evil that after her son’s death she killed all but one of her grandchildren so she could be queen!
			4. II Kings 10:1-11: Jehu had Ahab’s remaining 70 sons killed, and “killed all who remained of the house of Ahab in Jezreel” – His line cutoff!
		6. She was a mother of evil influence and caused her family’s downfall!
	2. Dishonorable Mentions:
		1. Rebekah – *Gen. 24:67:* A mother who taught her son to deceive and lie to gain what he wanted in life!
		2. Herodias – *Lk. 3:19-20:* A mother who condoned immoral sensuality and murder!
	3. These mothers are examples of what NOT to do!

#### The Godly – Spiritual Well-being

* 1. Mary – Lk. 1:26-38
		1. The woman “favored of God” who was chosen to give birth to Jesus, the Son of God, and the woman tasked to be His earthly mother! (1:28-33)
			1. She was a virgin (1:34) and was pure before marriage *(I Jn. 3:3).*
			2. The angel assured her she would be carrying the Son of God – 1:35
		2. Lk. 1:38: She humbly submitted to the will of God.
		3. Lk. 2:19: When shepherds who heard from an angel *(2:8-18)* came from the fields to honor and worship the newborn king, Mary “treasured” it in her heart.
		4. Mt. 2:14: She was obedient to the voice of God along with Joseph in taking Jesus to Egypt and returning when Herod died *(Mt. 2:19-21).*
		5. Lk. 2:48: When Jesus stayed behind at the Temple *(2:43-44),* Mary and Joseph searched everywhere for Him *(2:46).*
			1. *She was concerned for His physical well-being!*
		6. Lk. 2:50-52: Though they didn’t understand it at the time, they were the kind of people Jesus submitted to and was trained in wisdom and favor of God.
			1. *She was concerned for His spiritual well-being!*
		7. Jn. 19:25-27: She followed her Son all the way to the cross!
			1. She watched her Son die for the sins of the world, truly her heart was “pierced as with a sword” *(Lk. 2:34-35).*
		8. Acts 1:12-14: Her last mention in the Scriptures has her listed among believers, including the apostles and the Lord’s brothers (her children!).
			1. She was favored of God, watched her Son die (the One whom she was honored to raise), saw Him alive again, and watched Him ascend!
			2. She was counted among the believers!
		9. Mary was a mother like no other, and was truly “blessed among women!” *(Lk. 1:42)*
	2. Honorable Mentions:
		1. Jochebed – *Ex. 2:1-2; 6:20; Num. 26:59:* A mother who trusted in God, saved her baby, Moses (who she did not get to name!), and trained him to have faith in God – a mother who was not only concerned about physical well-being but spiritual well-being!
		2. Hannah – *I Sam. 1:1-2:* A mother who put God first, even in fulfilling her vow to dedicate her son Samuel to God, and was blessed for it
	3. Every child should be so thankful for mothers who have showed their love and devotion and sacrificial love for their family, and who are concerned not only for physical well-being but spiritual well-being!

## Conclusion

1. A godly mother will diligently train her children to know God (Prov. 1:8; 6:20).
2. A godly mother will not forsake her God-given role as a teacher of her young (Prov. 29:15).
3. A godly mother will be a godly example for her children (II Tim. 1:3-5: Lois & Eunice).
4. Godly mothers deserve our praise because they watch over our souls!
5. What kind of mother are you or will you be?
	1. The good, the bad, or the godly?
6. If you are not a Christian, you need to be. Repent and be baptized into His name!
7. If a Christian in error, don’t wait till it’s eternally too late. Repent and be renewed!
8. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!