

# A MOTHERS FAITHFULNESS

Sunday, May 9, 2010

Text: 1Samuel 1:1-ff ; 2:1-11

## INTRODUCTION:

This is a Mothers' Day sermon. I'm preaching without apology and with appreciation for that time—honored institution without the benefit of which we wouldn't be here!

Every Mother's Day sermon I've run across starts with an explanation — — this one's no exception. As a Pastor, I am reminded that motherhood isn't always what one might think it to be:

- (a) for some, motherhood is unintended, and not always a welcome one;
- (b) for some, biological motherhood isn't possible;
- (c) for some, mothers weren't all that nice;
- (d) for some, motherhood under the very best of circumstances is still less than a bed of roses and a primrose path.

If I can take some liberties with poet Wilhelm Busch's words, I'd have to say: "(Mutter) werden ist nitch schwer; (Mutter) sein dagegen sehr." (To become a (mother) is not so difficult; on the other hand, be-ing a (mother) can be very much so!)

So, bearing in mind that Motherhood, those a blessing from God, can be difficult, why bother with Mothers' Day at all? I'll tell you why — — because for all its stumbling blocks, pitfalls and broken dreams, for all the soiled diapers, soiled wallpaper and spoiled plans, we're talking about a beautiful ideal.

A natural part of God's creative plan to bring love and caring to light. Motherhood is a constant demand for the gift of love and caring.

Proclaim, "A Mother's Day Sermon," May 14, 1989.

I really believe the story I am about to share with you this morning holds all the key elements that can be a part of Motherhood when God is in control of a Mother's heart.

- I. MOTHERHOOD CAN BE PAINFUL! **Ch.1:1-8**
  - A. Even though this was a difficult time for Hannah, her and her husband Elkanah were worshippers of God.
  - B. We need to note that though Hannah couldn't bear children she was deeply loved by her husband.
  - C. Sometimes our pain is the result of more than one thing, for Hannah there was ridicule by others.
  - D. Sometimes we can't be consoled by anyone but the Lord. I believe this produces a greater dependence and reliance on God rather than man. In this instance it would lead to God doing the miraculous in Hannah's life.
  
- II. MOTHERHOOD HAS TIMES OF PRAISE! **1:9;18**
  - A. Many times when our pain and suffering is so great that it doesn't seem that we can bear it we are only left with praise.
  - B. Hannah didn't abandon her faith in God, even though this was a dark time in her life. She was still willing to go to the tabernacle to worship.
  - C. There were three things that Hannah would need to do in this situation.
    1. Turn to God for strength.

## VII. MOTHERHOOD REJOICES IN PRAYER! **Ch.2:1-10**

- A. Hannah's prayer really says it all!
1. V.1 She rejoices!
  2. V.2 She recognizes that God had the answer all along!
  3. V.3 God had the knowledge and solution to her prayer.
  4. Vv.4-5 These things don't come by the hand of man, but by the will of God.
  5. Vv.6-10 Hannah closes her prayer by extolling the works of the Lord.
    - a) He brings.
    - b) He raises.
    - c) He guards.
    - d) He judges.
    - e) He will give strength.

2. Be willing to trust God.
3. Seek to get her help from God.

*The LORD is my strength and my shield; My heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart greatly rejoices, And with my song I will praise Him. 8 The LORD is their strength, And He is the saving refuge of His anointed. (Psalms 28:7, 8, NKJV).*

## III. MOTHERHOOD REQUIRES PETITION! **1:10-11A**

- A. We never want to forget that petition begins with prayer not just with a plea.

*5 We will rejoice in your salvation, And in the name of our God we will set up our banners! May the LORD fulfill all your petitions. (Psalms 20:5, NKJV).*

*15 And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. (1 John 5:15, NKJV).*

- A. In the first part of verse 11 we see the petition that Hannah makes before the Lord.
1. Look on me!
  2. Remember me!
  3. Don't forget me!
  4. Give me!
- B. I know that my Mom prayed such a prayer for me, that God would look after me, that God would remember her prayer for her two sons, that God would not forget that she had committed us to the Lord, and that God would grant her petition for her two sons.

IV. MOTHERHOOD CAN CARRY WITH IT A PROMISE!

**1:11-12**

- A. As a mother there could be no greater blessing than for God to intrust the life of a child into her care.
- B. When a mother consecrates her children to the Lord, God will honor that promise that she has made. In Hannah's case her son Samuel would become one of the great prophets of the Bible.
- C. We can never forget that God may have great plans for those children that we dedicate to Him.

1Samuel 3:1-20, Describes how that God would raise up Samuel in a time of great need in Israel.

V. MOTHERHOOD RELYS ON PATIENCE! **1:13-18**

- A. Hannah kept her prayer to her self waiting for the answer from God.
- B. Eli the priest thought she was drunk, because her lips moved but no words came out. Just a quite, patient pryer before almighty God.
- C. Verse 15 says that Hannah, "...poured out her soul before the Lord." It is patient prayer that continues to pour out the contents of your soul before God, until the promise is a reality.
- D. When was the last time you poured out your soul, I mean you really emptied the contents of your heart in the presence of God on behalf of your child, or children.
- E. We can never pray to much for our kids, sometimes that is the only way that we can communicate our true feelings toward them, as we seek God on their behalf.

VI. MOTHERHOOD IS DETERMINED PERSISTENCE!

**1:19-28**

- A. Part of persistence is a continual attitude of worship.

**Ps 29:2** Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name; *Worship* the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

**Ps 95:6** Oh come, let us *worship* and bow down; Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.

**Ps 96:9** Oh, *worship* the LORD in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before Him, all the earth.

**Ps 97:7** Let all be put to shame who serve carved images, Who boast of idols. *Worship* Him, all you gods.

**Ps 99:5** Exalt the LORD our God, And *worship* at His footstool-- He is holy.

**Ps 99:9** Exalt the LORD our God, And *worship* at His holy hill; For the LORD our God is holy.

**Ps 132:7** Let us go into His tabernacle; Let us *worship* at His footstool.

- B. We should never forget that persistence can pay off in God's timing. Hannah would concieve and bear a child and call him **Samuel** (meaning "Heard By God").
- C. Hannah fulfills her part of the promise, when Samuel was weaned she brought him and presented him to Eli. When mother's are willing to honor God God will bring blessings.
- D. Notice verses 27-28, Hannah prayed God granted, and she did likewise, "...I lent (granted back to God that which He blessed me with).