

Godly Mothers

Anna Jarvis started the tradition of Mother's Day in 1908 and it later became a national holiday in 1914. However, respect and appreciation for mothers goes back to Bible times. In the scriptures, we are told that mothers deserve obedience and honor (Ephesians 6:2), affection (1 Kings 19:20), wisdom (Proverbs 10:1), righteousness (Proverbs 23:24-25), and care (1 Timothy 5:16).

Consider some mothers who brought their children to Jesus (Matthew 19:13-15). In Mark 5:21-24, 35-43, we see a mother's trust. Godly mothers trust that Jesus can do what he says he can do for the family. In Luke 7:11-17, we see a mother's respect. Godly mothers respect and praise God for what he has done for the family. In Matthew 15:21ff, we see a mother's perseverance. Godly mothers do whatever it takes to get help from Jesus for the family. And, in Matthew 20:20ff, we see a mother's ambition. Godly mothers will seek only those things that Jesus wants for the family.

I am grateful to all mother's who have raised their children on God's word and have brought them to Jesus. Happy Mother's Day! - *Chris Reeves*

Mother Quotes

- "All that I am, or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother." - Abraham Lincoln
- "The mother's heart is the child's school-room." - Henry Ward Beecher
- He makes the barren woman to keep house, and to be a joyful mother of children. Praise ye Jehovah. - The Psalmist (113:9).

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ
290 Warfield Blvd.
Clarksville, TN 37043

Website
wbcoc.org

Assembly Times
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm
Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome!
For More Information Call
(931) 647-1324

Published and Edited By
Chris Reeves
(615) 389-3250
chrisreevesmail@gmail.com
TheGoodTeacher.com

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

Stability In Your Times

In the time of Isaiah the prophet (c. 740 B.C.), the Old Testament kingdom of Israel and Judah faced perilous times. The powerful nation of Assyria was advancing from the north. After Assyria would destroy others and take Israel captive, they themselves would be destroyed (Isaiah 33:1).

Isaiah was sent by God to tell the people to trust in God for their strength and stability. He prayed for God's grace and salvation in the "time of trouble" (Isaiah 33:2). Then, Isaiah said this: *"Jehovah is exalted; for he dwells on high: he has filled Zion with justice and righteousness. And there shall be stability in your times, abundance of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge: the fear of Jehovah is thy treasure"* (Isaiah 33:5-6).

Let us examine Isaiah's "stability of your times..." We face unstable and disturbing times today. We face the threat of outside enemies like terrorists, gross violence and immorality, anti-Biblical politicians, economic hardships, deadly disease, etc.

The effect of such things can lead one to have anxiety, fear, depression, murmuring, complaining, suicide, revolt, unfaithfulness, etc. However, faithful Christians are undisturbed by

these disturbing times because they trust in God. Because God is exalted and he is a God of justice and righteousness, he will protect his people. Justice always brings stability to any people (Proverbs 29:4).

So, how can God's people have stability? Consider what Isaiah said. First, stability comes in the presence of salvation. When we are forgiven and have a hope of heaven, we are stable because we are without anxiety (Heb. 6:18-19).

Second, stability comes in the presence of wisdom and knowledge. When we know what is right and true, we are stable because we are without doubt (Proverbs 2:6-10; Ephesians 1:17; Colossians 1:9).

Third, stability comes in the presence of fearing the Lord. When we respect and reverence God, we are stable because we are without rebellion (Job 28:28; Psalm 111:10; Proverbs 1:7,29; 2:5; 9:10; 14:26; 15:33).

Faithful Christians can be stable in an extremely ungodly nation, in a humanistic educational setting, in a religiously diverse world, in a grossly immoral society, etc. We can be "rooted and grounded" in love, the hope of the gospel, and in faith if we will choose to be strong in the Lord (Ephesians 3:17; Colossians 1:23; 2:7). We

can be "no longer children tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine..." if we will choose to study the scriptures (Ephesians 4:14). We can be "steadfast" in our faith if we will choose to pray to God (1 Peter 5:9).

The obedience of the gospel for the religious is vital in our time. We all need to build our home on the stable rock of Jesus's words (Matthew 7:24).

The nurture and admonition of the Lord for the children is also vital in our times. We all need to build our character on the stable character of God's word (Ephesians 6:4).

The prayer of the righteous for leaders is vital in our times. We all need to pray that we will lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness (1 Timothy 2:1-2).

The assembly of the saints for worship is vital in our times. We all need to assemble to be stirred up to love and good works (Hebrews 10:25).

There is stability that comes from God in a chaotic time. How badly do you want it? Let's all pray to God like Isaiah did so that we can receive this much-needed stability. - Chris Reeves