

“THE EXAMPLE OF A GODLY MOTHER”

(MARY, THE MOTHER OF CHRIST)

LUKE 1:26-56

INTRO: Mothers Day is a very blessed day on the calendar when we focus on honoring some of the most precious people in the world...OUR MOTHERS. It is safe to say that MOTHERS HAVE HAD MORE POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON THEIR CHILDREN THAN ANY OTHER GROUP OF PEOPLE IN THE WORLD. Teachers can educate children academically. Pastors can encourage children spiritually. Doctors can help children physically. Policemen can protect children personally. Relatives can love children greatly. But the ONLY ONE WHO CAN DO ALL OF THOSE THINGS TOGETHER IS A MOTHER! Since the days of Adam and Eve God’s plan for motherhood has been for **EVERY MOTHER TO GIVE THEIR CHILDREN A SPIRITUAL EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW. BUT WHAT EXAMPLE CAN MOTHERS FOLLOW SO AS TO LIVE A LIFE OF GODLINESS?** The answer to that question is relatively easy. The BEST PERSON TO A MOTHER TO PATTERN HER LIFE AFTER IS **MARY, THE MOTHER OF CHRIST.** As we look at the Virgin Mary, we can see very clear characteristics of righteousness that caused God to select her as the one to give birth to His Son and our Lord Jesus Christ. Any mother, who is striving after godliness, will be wise to study the life of Mary and follow in her steps so that God may choose her to do great things for Him.

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I. MARY WAS HIGHLY FAVORED BY GOD - VSS. 28a, 30

“Hail, thou art highly favored.”

A. Mary had a certain characteristic that brought God’s favor upon her. To be “HIGLY FAVORED” meant that Mary was “GRACED BY GOD.” That is, she experienced a great amount of God’s Grace.

1. That characteristic of Mary is “HUMILITY.”
2. Humility is the characteristic that brings the Grace of God to us.

-Note James 4:6,10

Even after knowing she was going to give birth to the Messiah, Mary remained humble. Note verse 48.

B. The Godly mother today will humble herself before God always.

1. She will reject any and all personal pride.
2. She will realize her total deficiency apart from God.
3. She will recognize dependency upon God

ILLUSTRATION:

II. MARY EXPERIENCED THE PRESENCE OF GOD - VS. 28b

“The Lord is with thee.”

A. Mary Experienced the Presence of the Lord for Several Reasons

(To experience the presence of God for anyone, three components are needed: Relationship with God, Holiness before God, Obedience to God)

1. She had Relationship with Him.
2. She had a life of Holiness before Him.
3. She had an Obedience to Him.

B. The Godly woman today will Experience the Presence of God

1. Because of her relationship with God in salvation.
2. Because of her separation from sin in holiness.
3. Because of her Obedience to God consistently.

ILLUSTRATION:

III. MARY WAS BLESSED AMONG WOMEN - VSS. 28c, 42

“Blessed Art Thou Among Women”

A. Mary was blessed among (not above) women because she was chosen among thousands of Jewish ladies to bring the Messiah into the world.

NOTE: This was a part of God’s providence, but Mary was blessed by God due to her godly character. Thus she was given the GREATEST HONOR A WOMAN COULD HAVE – **To give birth to the Messiah!**

B. The Godly Mother today will be blessed by God through her godly character, as was the case with Mary. That involves:

1. Personal Salvation
2. Personal Sanctification

3. Personal Service

ILLUSTRATION:

IV. MARY WAS SUBMITTED TO THE WILL OF GOD – VS. 38

“Be it unto me according to thy word.”

A. Mary did not at all fuss at the will of God rebellion.

1. She may not have understood the will of God at that point.
2. She simply said, “LET IT BE DONE.”

3. She undoubtedly had an idea what she would face in the world by those around her, BUT SHE SUBMITTED TO GOD’S WILL UNCONDITIONALLY.

B. The Godly Mother today will submit to God’s will without rebellion.

1. Ephesians 5:22-24
2. 1 Timothy 5:14

ILLUSTRATION:

V. MARY HAD COMPLETE FAITH IN GOD – VS. 45

“Blessed is she that believed.”

A. Mary had Faith in God to do what He said He would do.

1. “There shall be a performance of those things”
2. Mary never doubted that God would fulfill His Word.

B. The Godly mother today will have faith in God to fulfill promises.

1. Her faith will come as a result of being in the Scriptures
2. Her faith will hold her up in troublesome times.
3. Her faith will direct her in all of life’s decisions.

ILLUSTRATION:

VI. MARY MAGNIFIED GOD GREATLY – VS 46

“My Soul doth Magnify the Lord”

A. Mary magnified the Lord from her VERY SOUL!

1. This is true worship stemming from GENUINE RECOGNITION OF THE GREATNESS OF GOD AND HIS MIGHTY WORKS!

2. What is recorded in Verses 46-55 has been called “MARY’S HYMN” in which she speaks of her deep adoration of and joy she had from God.

3. In reality, her words is a prayer of the highest sort for which she asks FOR NOTHING! **She just gives praise to and worships God for Who He is.**

- a. For His Salvation Vs. 47
- b. For His Power Vs. 49a
- c. For His Holiness Vs, 49b
- d. For His Mercy Vs. 50
- e. For His Strength Vss. 51,52
- f. For His Provision Vs. 53
- g. For His Help Vs. 54
- h. For His Revelation Vs. 55

B. The Godly mother today will magnify the Lord in True Worship

1. She will be aware of His greatness through His Word and His Workings and exalt Him personally.
2. She will give testimony of His greatness to her children and others.

ILLUSTRATION:

LESSONS: There has only been ONE VIRGIN MARY! But, she was no different than any other lady today. She was a human. She was a sinner. She was tempted. BUT SHE WAS GODLY! Because of her godliness, God used her for the HIGHEST MINISTRY ANY HUMAN BEING COULD OFFER! Mothers who are godly will be used highly of the Lord today and will be blessed by Him. We need such mothers today which leads me to two closing thoughts to share:

- 1) For the Body of Christ: **Let’s Pray for all mothers.**
- 2) For all mothers: **Follow Mary’s example and choose the life of godliness.**