

MOTHER'S DAY
"Bible Motherhood"
Titus 2:1-5

1. Scripture is clearly "sound doctrine" (v. 1). It is, therefore, healthy teaching (cf. 1 Tim. 1:10; 2 Tim. 4:3; Titus 1:9). Here then is a resource worthy of our obedience!

2. Modern sociology, psychology, and human resource leaders have joined with liberal politics and theology to dethrone the Bible from its place as the only revelation from God. Authority, therefore, has moved from God to man.

3. Moreover, many professing believers take the attitude that -- Christ as Saviour, yes; but the Bible as the rule, no! As being faithful, to the infallible Word of God, it is imperative we seek its precepts. What does the Bible set forth as the life style of Christian women. Take these changeless precepts:

1. About LEADERS v. 3

"Aged men" are instructed in this text (v. 2), but the attention in this study is to the "aged women" (v. 3) and the "young women" (v. 4). The "aged women" are called upon regarding their behavior. This word is a compound one meaning "deportment." It refers to the condition or state of a person. Four words are used to extrapolate "deportment:"

a. Holiness

This is a compound word signifying one who is "suited" to something "sacred" as a temple. It is a strong word about the character of an aged woman. There is no doubt that God is concerned about commitment to one's personal being. It is to be characterized by sacredness. What an expectation!

b. Slander

This is preceded by a negative, hence no bad mouthing anyone. This is described as the work of Satan, hence he is the Slanderer (cf. Mt. 4:1, 5, 8, 11). Judas is also referred to as a slanderer (John 6:70). Older women leaders are not to engage in that sort of activity.

c. Wine

Scripture is patently clear that wine of an intoxicating nature is forbidden to believers. The perfect tense of the verb here points negatively to continual use of the wine. It is not to be included in the deportment of "aged" women leaders.

d. Teacher

Here is the didactic opportunity afforded women in the assembly. Where some women find their role in the church difficult, here is a word of incredible value. The older women are expected to be teachers of good things. There is a lot of teaching needed about faith, truth, love, and down right Christian living by the Holy Spirit. Let the women fill their days with this!

2. About LEARNERS v. 4

The purpose clause with a subjunctive verb affirms that the character of the aged women is of such a high caliber so that they might "train, school, or make sane" the younger

women. Secular education is not necessarily decried, but Scriptural education is clearly expected in the local assembly! What a call upon older women to engage in teaching sessions with younger women. The areas of instruction are listed:

a. Discreetness

This noun is a cognate of the verb "teach" or "school." Hence, sound thinking, being sensible, sane, and not silly. Wild ideas often are advanced by unlearned and unschooled young women. They need to be immersed in God's way of thinking.

b. Chasteness

The original word of the text is "pure from every fault" (cf. 1 Tim. 5:22) and pure from carnality (the flesh), hence modesty (2 Cor. 11:2). Purity in thought, act, look, speech, and dress are surely all included. This all comes from training!

c. Goodness

Added to all the other qualities advanced, this affirms hearty kindness, beneficence, graciousness. God is looking for inner excellence. Let no one dilute the high standard advanced here.

3. About LOVERS vv. 4, 5

a. Husbands

Chrysostum, an early Church father, said, "This is the chief point of all that is good in a household." It is interesting that God instructs a women to "love" her husband. Elsewhere she is instructed to "submit" or take her place under her husband (1 Cor. 11:3; Eph. 5:22; Col. 3:18). That injunction is repeated here (v. 5). Love and submission are not considered incompatible.

b. Children

Like the previous word and the one to follow, this one is only found here in the N.T. Chrysostum also wrote that "She who loves the root will much more love the fruit." Regretfully, in this modern day of divorce and abortion the thoughts of these two words are almost inexplicable. Some women actually choose animals over husbands and kids. May God touch our hearts lest we replace God's Word with education, profession, or promotion. There is nothing that can take the place of obedience to the Word of God!

c. Home

This is the final link in the training of older women for the younger ones. What is it? Stay home! There is just no other way to render the word to avoid the obvious. The younger women are to be "keepers at home" or "workers at home." The word "homemaker" is the modern term. To have any other pursuit is to violate the Word of God.

Conclusion. Failure to live according to the precepts provided in this Scripture will be "to blaspheme" the Word of God. In short, to speak impiously against God. Many are offended by this, but those whose hearts pant after God receive it as it is in truth -- the Word of God. So be it!