

What Children Say About Their Mothers **By Kent Heaton**

“She watches over the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: Many daughters have done well, but you excel them all. Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, but a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her own works praise her in the gates” (Prov. 31:27-31)

Abraham Lincoln said, “All that I am, or can be, I owe to my angel mother.” Every person that walks on the face of the earth owes their life to the woman who carried them in her womb. The miracle of motherhood is the foundation of all humanity. Adam called his wife Eve because she was the mother of all living (Gen. 3:20). Through the creative power of God, man and woman create a new life as a child is conceived in the womb of woman and life grows. All men have entered the world in the same manner including Jesus Christ. One of the most poignant moments in the history of man is when Jesus looked down from His cross and recognized Mary, His mother. He implored John to care for His mother.

A godly woman who has impressed upon her children the mantle of God is a woman worthy of the praise of her children. There are no trophies for the woman of the year because her humble spirit is rooted deep within the pages of God’s word. A successful woman is not measured by her degrees of education, outward beauty or wealth. The true character of a woman praised by her children is one that receives from the heart of godly children thanksgiving for her devotion to the Lord. Her children praise her because of her love for truth and righteousness. They have been taught the outward adorning of the body is of no value. The beauty of their mother is seen in the hands that toiled endlessly to provide for the family and then folded in quiet prayer. Children rise up, call their mother blessed as they remember the songs that taught them early that Jesus loved them, trust, and obey. The knowledge of the mother is imparted to the hearts of the children as she teaches them the wonderful stories of God.

Children who praise their mother know that charm is deceitful and beauty is passing. The honor given to a godly woman is the joy of hearing their children speak of the Lord in the home, praying together in the harmony of Christian love and letting their lights shine in the world as righteousness. Children who love the Lord honor their mother who taught the old, old story of the Father. Trinkets of this world pass away but the memory of a godly mother never will. Never let a day go by that expressions of love and honor be given to the women who have toiled in the home to build a foundation of truth and righteousness and a deep love for God. Children should rise up and bless their mothers for the joyful example given to them. It required a life of sacrifice. She excelled in her duty first to the Lord and then to her family. Her life was forfeit for Christ. Children can see this. Praise flows from the lips of children who know the joy of godly mothers. May the Lord raise up more women who will embrace the cloak of righteousness and teach their children the way of truth. And let not the children forget to honor godly mothers.

Forgiveness Glorifies the Father **By Kent Heaton**

“For Your name's sake, O Lord, pardon my iniquity, for it is great” (Psalm 25:11).

Sin leaves a terrible mark upon man. There is nothing he can do to provide the answer to sin apart from God. When Adam and Eve rebelled against God in the Garden of Eden, they hid in fear and shame. There was nothing they could do to find salvation until the Lord granted His mercy and grace upon them. Noah was told of an impending flood that would destroy all humanity but he would not have known this apart from God. Having received the news of the

flood, Noah was still at the mercy of the Lord to know what to do to avert the tragedy. By the grace of God Noah was instructed to build an ark that would save himself and his family. When David and Bathsheba sinned in their liaison of adultery leading to murder, they were to be stoned to death in accordance with the Law of Moses but God removed that penalty. It was David who wrote that when God pardoned iniquity, it was to show the glory and majesty of the Almighty.

Forgiveness takes place in the mind of God. Man cannot boast of his own worth when the Lord removes his sin. Receiving the remission of sin glorifies the Father. The incarnation of Jesus was God's idea. Allowing His Son to die on a cross brought exaltation to the Father. Granting remission of sins in the waters of baptism sets a man free from the bondage of sin but it magnifies the character of God more than anything else does. Forgiveness promotes the name of the Father "that His glorious character may be displayed; that he may show himself to the universe to be merciful and gracious. There are, doubtless, other reasons why He pardons sin - reasons drawn from the bearing which the act of mercy will have on the welfare of the universe; but still the main reason is, that His own honor will thus be promoted, and His true character thus made known" (Albert Barnes)

Each time I ask the Father to forgive me I must remember that what I ask of Him is to glorify His name. I am a sinner because I have transgressed His law. The only hope of redemption is in the name of the Father. There is no other way, there can be no other truth and the only life I can find that is eternal is in the name of the Father. Salvation is all about the mercy and grace of the Lord God Father. Without Him, I would be nothing and am nothing. Godly sorrow comes from the realization that my sin injures the name of my heavenly Father. Granting forgiveness exalts the name of God and His name alone. The conclusion is a powerful reminder of my own insignificance and the eternal glory of the One who grants me His abiding love to promise eternal life in His presence. How great the name of God.

A Moments Wisdom

- Good luck often has the odor of perspiration around it.
- Do not grieve because you feel you will never do anything great. There are people in your little corner of the world, and you can be kind to them. That is true greatness.
- If you would be obeyed as a parent, be obedient as a child.
- The true test of character is not how much we know, but how we act when we don't know.
- Much of our unhappiness results from a failure to remember the good things that have happened to us.
- The bad news is that time flies; the good news is that you are the pilot.
- Manhood is not measured by the size of the chest, but by the quality of the heart.
- Worry will not help tomorrow's troubles, but it can ruin today's happiness.
- The hardest lesson for us to learn is the one we thought we had already learned.
- Often when we criticize another person, it says nothing about that person; it merely says something about our need to be critical.
- Age doesn't always bring wisdom. Sometimes age comes alone.
- God brings men into deep waters, not to drown them, but to cleanse them.
- Of all of our troubles, great and small, the greatest are those that don't happen at all.
- Few people are as tired as the man who does nothing.
- First, give yourself to God; you can be sure He will look after what is His.