

The Apostle Paul's Mother

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- Rom. 16:13 - "Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine."
- Acts 6:9 - "Then there arose some from what is called the Synagogue of the Freedmen (Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and those from Cilicia and Asia), disputing with Stephen."
- Acts 13:1 - "Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul."

A Godly Mother's Legacy

- Prov. 31:10, 15, 20-21, 25-28 - “Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies... 15 She also rises while it is yet night, And provides food for her household, And a portion for her maidservants... 20 She extends her hand to the poor, Yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy. 21 She is not afraid of snow for her household, For all her household is clothed with scarlet... 25 Strength and honor are her clothing; She shall rejoice in time to come. 26 She opens her mouth with wisdom, And on her tongue is the law of kindness. 27 She watches over the ways of her household, And does not eat the bread of idleness. 28 Her children rise up and call her blessed; Her husband also, and he praises her.”

A Godly Mother's Legacy

- Prov. 11:16 - “A gracious woman retains honor...”
- 2Tim. 1:5 - “I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.”
- “Oh Mother, Mother, if you had not been the woman you were, I would not have been the man that I am.” (*Charles Haddon Spurgeon*)

Paul's Mother In The Flesh

- When Paul obeyed the gospel, he was abandoned or opposed by all in Judaism
 - Acts 9:22-26 - “But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this Jesus is the Christ. 23 Now after many days were past, the Jews plotted to kill him. 24 But their plot became known to Saul. And they watched the gates day and night, to kill him. 25 Then the disciples took him by night and let him down through the wall in a large basket. 26 And when Saul had come to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, and did not believe that he was a disciple.”

Paul's Mother In The Flesh

- Paul's family were devout Pharisees of the militant tribe of Benjamin who carefully followed the Law of Moses
 - Phil. 3:4-8 - “Though I also might have confidence in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so: 5 circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; 6 concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. 7 But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. 8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ.”

Paul's Mother In The Flesh

- Only Paul's nephew seemed to keep contact with him
 - Acts 23:16 - "So when Paul's sister's son heard of their ambush, he went and entered the barracks and told Paul."
- We can reason that Paul chose Christ over his family

Paul's Mothers In The Faith

- Mark 10:29-30 - "So Jesus answered and said, Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel's, 30 who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time--houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions--and in the age to come, eternal life."
- Mark 3:31-35 - "Then His brothers and His mother came, and standing outside they sent to Him, calling Him. 32 And a multitude was sitting around Him; and they said to Him, Look, Your mother and Your brothers are outside seeking You. 33 But He answered them, saying, Who is My mother, or My brothers? 34 And He looked around in a circle at those who sat about Him, and said, Here are My mother and My brothers! 35 For whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother."

Paul's Mothers In The Faith

- Older sisters in the faith are to be treated as mothers
 - 1Tim. 5:1-2 - “Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father, younger men as brothers, 2 older women as mothers, younger as sisters, with all purity.”
- Heb. 6:10 - “For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.”

Paul's Mothers In The Faith

- Perhaps she nursed him back to health after one of his beatings or stoning (2Cor. 11:24-25; Gal. 6:17)
- Perhaps she encouraged him as a mother would a son when his brow was furrowed with anxiety for the churches under his care (2Cor. 11:28)
- Perhaps when Paul was abandoned or opposed by his own brethren that he remembered a motherly older sister who loved him unconditionally(2Tim. 4:9-18)

The Apostle Paul's Mother

- “No man is poor who has a Godly mother.” (*Abraham Lincoln*)
- “My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute my success in life to the moral, intellectual, and physical education I received from her.” (*George Washington*)
- Rom. 16:13 - “Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine.”
- Prov. 31:28 - “Her children rise up and call her blessed”