

Judges 4:1-9; 5:1-11 - Mothers Day 2021

Intro – Today is the coinciding of the Lord's Day and Mothers Day. The Lord has commanded us to honor our mothers and motherhood (5th). But there is more to motherhood than getting pregnant – it encompasses preparing the next generation. There is no substitute for a mom in the early years... or the adolescent years, or adult years. Being a mom is not even limited to women who have birthed children. It is not recorded that Deborah had kids but it does record that she was a mother to many. She was a mother to a nation- a mother in Israel. homes/church/nation needs moms. America needs mothers like Deborah

Today we will look at the Environment that calls for mothers to arise...the Encouragement that these mothers give as they inspire leadership...and the Testament that national mothers have as a legacy.

ENVIRONMENT

- When life is barren it needs those who are uniquely designed to can carry life. Need for mothers
 - When a nation is low its mothers can lift it up
- The nation of Israel was at a low. Judges 4:1
 - Did evil after Ehud they had a good 80 year run from Ehud (Judges 3:30)
 - God sold the nation to oppressors 4:2 (ironically just got out of slavery – John 8:34)
- Land of milk and honey turned to mayhem and horror – the milk soured and honey wasn't sweet
 - 5:6 highways deserted commerce/activity diminished
 - 5:6b “went roundabout” It wasn't safe to travel or be out at night
 - 5:7 peasantry ceased – the old/slow/peaceful way of life was gone
 - 5:8 new gods were chosen -the old time religion was exchanged for the new
 - This new religion brought war within the gates
 - 5:8b the nation was unprepared and defenseless
 - They had put away their weapons (or had them taken away by the oppressors)
- This is the environment of a sinful society in biblical history and throughout history
 - 14th century painting in Siena, Italy “Allegory of Good and Bad Government”
 - Good has: Justice with the wicked punished and righteous rewarded. There is Peace, Fortitude, Prudence, Temperance overseen by Faith, Hope and Love
 - City life is bustling, being built, commerce, productive activity, learning, joy
 - County life – enjoyment and employment, diligence in fruitful labor. Caption – “without fear every man may travel freely and each may toil and sow...”
 - Bad has – Tyranny ruling with Justice bound & shackled beneath him. Cruelty, Treason, Fraud, Fury, Divisiveness
 - all is overseen and influenced by the vices of Greed, Pride and Vainglory
 - The city is broken/burning, the fields are on fire. No commerce only commotion. Not safe for women to be in the streets. Terror reigns. The caption says, “Because each seeks only his own good in this city Justice is subjected to Tyranny; therefore along this road nobody passes without fearing for his life, since there are robberies outside and inside the city gate”

- Does this painting look/sound familiar? (it was for the 9 council members – 2 month office)
 - I have a catch in my spirit when my daughter asks to ride her bike around the block in the evening. There is something is wrong with our society...like with Deborah's society
- Judges 5:6-7 she arose a mother in Israel to carry and deliver life
 - Deborah's name means "honeybee".
 - The queen bee and was going to bring honey back to the land of milk & honey
 - She arose for such a time as this. Equipped as a mother to address the mayhem
 - Ladies don't sell yourself short. Your home needs you. Your church needs you. Your nation needs you. America needs some moms
 - Godly women can change a home, change a church and change a nation

ENCOURAGEMENT

- Judges 4:4a Deborah was a prophetess
 - Her encouraging word was with the WORD
 - The honeybee delivered that which is sweeter than honey from the honey comb (Ps. 19)
 - Proverbs 31:26 "she open her mouth wisdom and on her tongue is the law of kindness"
 - A mother gives life by the wonderful words of life
- Judges 4:4b Deborah was a Judge
 - This mother in Israel judged between right and wrong
 - She used the Word to say what was right and the Word to say what was wrong
 - Good mothers do a good bit of judging
- Judges 4:6 Deborah motivated a man to be a man
 - She summoned Barak and told him that he had task assigned to him by God –
 - Son, you have a purpose
 - 4:7 she encouraged him with Gods sovereignty and the sure success of mission
 - Barak was hesitant 4:8
 - 4:9 – "if you want mamma to hold your hand and go to battle with you I will, but you need to buck it up Barak. Man up
 - We need mothers to motivated men to be men - not emasculated them but motivate
- She inspired leadership – 5:2 And she called out cowards - 5:12-18 (mamma don't play)

TESTAMENT

- the labor of this national mother gave the nation 40 years Judges 5:31
 - the Queen Bee's labor and delivery gave life to the nation for 40 years - a good legacy
- Judges 5 is a song of praise to God and thanks for His raising up a mother like Deborah
 - Her children rise and call her blessed Prov. 31:28
- Are there some ladies that will answer the call to be "the mom"
 - To make an assessment of environment & say, "this home/church/nation needs a mom
 - To give Encouragement by the Word and proper judgment of right and wrong and motivate men to be men and to call out the cowards
 - Leave a lasting Testament – a home, a church, a nation with years of undisturbed rest because mothers arose in the nation