

Motherhood for the Lord's sake

1 Samuel 1-2

Genesis 1:27-28 God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. ²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Psalm 127:3-5 Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. ⁴ Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. ⁵ Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them!

Over the past 37.5 years there were 1.5 billion unborn children killed in the world¹.

1,500,000,000 were killed in the womb since 1980.

155,000,000 were killed in all of the 20th century wars and revolutions.

I. The knowledge of God

1 Samuel 2:2-3 "There is none holy like the Lord: for there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God. ³ Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth; for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.

1 Samuel 2:6-8 The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up. ⁷ The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low and he exalts. ⁸ He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and on them he has set the world.

1 Samuel 2:9-10 "He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness, for not by might shall a man prevail. ¹⁰ The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces; against them he will thunder in heaven. The Lord will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king and exalt the horn of his anointed."

Luke 1:43 And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

Luke 1:46-55 And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior... holy is his name. ⁵⁰ And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; ⁵² he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; ⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever."

¹ <http://www.numberofabortions.com/>



II. Humility before God

1 Samuel 1:14-16 And Eli said to her, “How long will you go on being drunk? Put your wine away from you.” ¹⁵ But Hannah answered, “No, my lord, I am a woman troubled in spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the Lord. ¹⁶ Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for all along I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation.”

Luke 1:34 And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

Luke 1:38 And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant^f of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

III. Prayer to God

1 Samuel 1:10, 12 She was deeply distressed and **prayed to the Lord** and wept bitterly... ¹² As **she continued praying before the Lord**, Eli observed her mouth.

1 Samuel 12:23-24 Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you, and I will instruct you in the good and the right way.²⁴ Only fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart.

“Now, Lord, if my children go on in their sins, it will not be from ignorance that they perish, and my soul must bear a swift witness against them at the day of judgment if they lay not hold of Christ.”²

IV. Serving God

1 Samuel 1:24-28 And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh. And the child was young.²⁵ Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli.²⁶ And she said, “Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord.²⁷ For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted me my petition that I made to him.²⁸ Therefore I have lent him to the Lord. As long as he lives, he is lent to the Lord.” And he worshiped the Lord there.

Think on this particularly, you that are mothers of children, when you find the fruit of the womb quickened within you: you bear a creature within you of more value than all this visible world—a creature upon whom, from that very moment, an eternity of happiness or misery is entailed. Therefore, it concerns you to travail as in pain for their souls before you feel the sorrows and pangs of travail for their bodies...O let your cries and prayers for them anticipate your kisses and embraces of them. If you be faithful and successful herein, then happy is the womb that bears them³.

When God gives thee a child, He says, as Pharaoh’s daughter to Moses’ mother, “Take this child and nurse it for me” (Exo 2:9). Though we are but parents of their flesh, we must be careful of their souls, otherwise we ruin them⁴.

² Time Challies, *Devoted. Great Men and Their Godly Moms*, 823

³ John Flavel, *Free Grace Broadcast*, <http://www.chapellibrary.org/files/2214/1139/6329/mothfg.pdf>

⁴ Thomas Boston, *A Mother’s Main Responsibility*, <http://www.chapellibrary.org/files/2214/1139/6329/mothfg.pdf>