
God's Tender Plan for Children: The History of Motherhood

1. God's Design for Gender Enables Motherhood

Gen 1:27 So God created man in His [own] image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

2. God's Command for Marriage Requires Motherhood

Gen 1:28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

3. God's Curse for the Woman Retained Motherhood

Gen 3:16 To the woman He said: "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire [shall be] for your husband, And he shall rule over you."

4. God's First Woman Is Known By Her Motherhood

Gen 3:20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

5. God's Promise of Blessing Directly Involves Motherhood

Gen 13:14-16¹⁴ And the Lord said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him: "Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are-- northward, southward, eastward, and westward;¹⁵ for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever.¹⁶ And I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if a man could number the dust of the earth, [then] your descendants also could be numbered.

6. God's Reward for Happiness & Impact Involves Motherhood

Psalms 127:3-5³ Behold, children [are] a heritage from the Lord, The fruit of the womb [is] a reward.⁴ Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So [are] the children of one's youth. Happy [is] the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed, But shall speak with their enemies in the gate.

Psalms 128:1-6¹ A song of Ascents. Blessed [is] every one who fears the Lord, Who walks in His ways.² When you eat the labor of your hands, You [shall be] happy, and [it shall be] well with you.³ Your wife [shall be] like a fruitful vine in the very heart of your house, Your children like olive plants All around your table.⁴ Behold, thus shall the man be blessed Who fears the Lord.⁵ The Lord bless you out of Zion, And may you see the good of Jerusalem All the days of your life.⁶ Yes, may you see your children's children. Peace [be] upon Israel!

7. God's Plan of Bringing the Savior Involved Motherhood

Luke 1:26-38²⁶ Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name [was] Mary.²⁸ And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord [is] with you; blessed [are] you among women!"²⁹ But when she saw [him], she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was.³⁰ Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus.³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.³³ And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."³⁴ Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?"³⁵ And the angel answered and said to her, "[The] Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. ..."³⁸ Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." ...

8. God's Direction in the NT Continues with Motherhood

1 Tim 2:11-15¹¹ Let a woman learn in silence with all submission.¹² And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence.¹³ For Adam was formed first, then Eve. ...¹⁵ Nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.

1 Tim 5:9-14⁹ Do not let a widow under sixty years old be taken into the number, [and not unless] she has been the wife of one man,¹⁰ well reported for good works: if she has brought up children, if she has lodged strangers, if she has washed the saints' feet, if she has relieved the afflicted, if she has diligently followed every good work.¹¹ But refuse [the] younger widows; for when they have begun to grow wanton against Christ, they desire to marry,¹² having condemnation because they have cast off their first faith. ...¹⁴ Therefore I desire that [the] younger [widows] marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully.

Titus 2:3-5³ the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things--⁴ that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children,⁵ to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.