Mary, the Mother of Jesus

Jesus could have come into this world any way He desired. He could have descended from heaven in a flash of lightening, like a white tornado, or entered riding on a white charger. But He chose to be born into this world like any one of us, by way of a mother.

Matthew 1:18 tells us, “This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit.” The Virgin Mary was the noblest woman in all human history. Story of the virgin birth is a literal story from history. Mary lived a humble, human, life. Just enough said about her in New Testament, to show that she had a pure, human, nature and little enough is said about her, so that we do not to magnify her into a God. Just enough is stated in Scripture about Mary for her to be seen, to be understood, and to be attested. She is spoken about, loved and appreciated and, then, she is gone. Mary was not a theatrical woman, not a paper miniature. She was a very real woman.

She was also mother of other children. John 7:3 speaks of, “Jesus’ brothers” Verse 5 also makes reference to “His brothers.” And verse 10, as well! John 20:17 and 21:23 also makes mention of Jesus’ “brothers.”

Mary was buried without a funeral mentioned in Scripture. Her grave is unmarked. There is no known epitaph. She passed swiftly through pages of God's Word. God never meant that she should be worshiped. But she should be reverentially remembered as the beautiful, pure, virgin that she was – and as the “mother of Jesus.” She should be loved and appreciated for her glory, her beauty and the wonder of her life. She was chosen among all the women on earth to be Jesus' Mother!

In no sense is she our Savior, our mediator, or our intercessor. She was the mother of Jesus and we should honor her as such.

The great thing about Jesus’ first miracle was not that it was at a wedding, or even that the water was made wine, but that His mother was there! Jesus was beginning His ministry and, His mother was there. It was not last appearance of His mother with Him. Just because He had started His wonderful works, was no sign for His mother to leave. She, of course, was there in Bethlehem. She was there in the flight into Egypt. She was there when, at the age of twelve, He was at the Temple. she followed by His side through entire life, until He died on cross.

We read of three of Jesus’ disciples going with Him to Mount Transfiguration. Nothing said about His mother's whereabouts, but you can rest assured that she was not far away!

We read of the disciples being asleep in the garden, but you can be sure His mother was close, maybe not in the garden but somewhere not far away, awake and praying.

She was there at the Cross, near enough to catch His last words. John 19:25 records, “Now there stood by the Cross of Jesus, His mother.” She had to be there because that is the way of a mother. From the cradle to the grave, a good mother always stands by. Who can enter more fully into the life of a man than his mother? However far apart physically, a mother is always there.
Mothers, like God, are everywhere! Her influence, character, values and standards are formed in her children, guiding the destiny of men – and nations! Her influence is not so much in politics – or even her ballot at the polls. Her influence is not necessarily her social, or moral, reformation, but rather it is the principles of righteousness within her heart which is transferred to the lives of her children.

The character of our community and our nation is dependent on the character of our homes. This great nation was founded on a little group of sturdy Christian homes that constituted the Plymouth colony. And it is to the American home that America owes its greatness and power too, not to commerce, mighty fleets, nor victorious armies. Always remember, we cannot weaken the influence of the home, or its importance, without dangerously weakening the foundation of this republic.

FOUR TRUTHS ABOUT MOTHERS

1. Mothers are the defender of the Home

I’ll get to you father’s on Father’s Day, but I want to talk to mother’s now.

When Holland was being invaded by her enemy in the Spring of 1940, for first time in 143 years, those Dutch mothers of that Old Fashioned country came from their homes with household utensils and knives to defend their children. Mothers, you are charged with the responsibility of the proper rearing and training of your children.

2. Mothers are the guiding influence of State

James Garfield, when inaugurated as President of the United States, insisted that his mother attend. At first she refused because she felt that she would be out of place here great men and women of our nation was assembled. But, he insisted! She was given a place of honor. In his inaugural address, he said: “All that I am, or hope to be - I owe to my mother!”

3. Mothers are the purveyors of the good things in religion

John Wesley said, “My religion is due to fine influence and teachings of my mother.”

Martin Luther, like Samuel of old, could trace his religious convictions to the teachings of his mother Even Christ needed the influence of a mother.

Religion would not last through a single generation if there were no mothers to instill religious convictions into the hearts and minds of their children.

4. Mothers are the saviors of our civilization

The religion of ancient Hebrews, the teachings of Abraham, have been preserved for us, despite over 400 years of Egyptian slavery, because a mother hid her boy in the bull-rushes of the Nile. Jochebed was a “deliverer of Israel and a savior of the Old Testament religion.” Wherever Moses went, in the desert, the mountains, in kings’ court, in the Tabernacle and to-battle against Pharaoh’s forces, the spirit, influence and, power of his godly mother lead him.

So it is in every Tabernacle, government seat, or palace gate, the mother of men are there.
**The bravest of battles that ever was fought**
_Shall I tell you where and when?
On the maps of the world you will find it not –
’Twas fought by the mothers of men.
No marshaling troop, no bivouac song –
No banner, to gleam and wave
But, oh, those battles they last so long
From the cradle to the grave._

Whatever the desires of women, it seems that the controlling impulse, the chief nature and consuming passion is primarily that of motherhood. Mothers, you are the guiding stars of the unheralded destiny of men. In you rests our hope and our fate!

My tribute to you today . . .
Mothers:
You compose more music than any musician,
Paint more pictures than all the artists,
Find more new stars than any astronomer,
Analyze more strata of rocks than any geologist,
Help more sickness than any physicians,
Enter more fields of reform than any reformer,
Superintend more schools than any educator, and
Contribute to more international solidarity than any statesman.

Without you, the wheels of progress would stand still! Men would be unable to perform the tasks assigned to them, where it not for you mothers standing by!

Years ago, a young lady was going overseas as a missionary. She was all prepared and waiting for the ship to sail. She received word that her sister had died, leaving three children to raise. The girl, who was to leave as the missionary, became a mother to her sister’s children and raised them. She often thought, “Why God? I was ready to go and do Your work over seas, why did this happen?”

Years later, the children were grown and each one of them had entered the ministry. Two were missionaries, and one married a pastor and was working for church here in the states. She knew then that her life had been multiplied by three and God used her to train these children for ministry for Him. Mothers, you will never know this side of eternity what your life can be in rearing your children for God!