

Biblical Womanhood and Motherhood

Series: Mothers Day 2021

Text: Titus 2:3-5

Introduction: No biblical standard is more viciously attacked today than the God-ordained role of women in society. And no passage is more ridiculed or reinterpreted by assailants within the church than these two verses. We live in a society that is bent on destroying the truth of God's word. Before I get to the text, I want to express two thoughts which this text does not present, but the radical feminist and egalitarians put forth as an argument. It does not speak on a woman being a slave to her husband and obeying his kingly commands. It does not speak that a woman/mother should not ever work outside the home. That's NOT what the text says.

God has a created order which is divine, perfect and meant to glorify His name. Genesis 2:18 *"Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good for man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him' "*. The world hates this text and feminist despise it because it puts the woman as the helper. They view this a slavery. No where in Scripture does God put a man above a woman in worth or value. Galatians 3:28 *"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."* But what we must understand is God has a created order. And when applied in a Godly, biblical way, it honors God and glorifies who He is. Yes, God created male and female for different purposes and roles. This order is refined in Genesis 3:16 *"To the woman He said, I will greatly multiply Your pain in childbirth, In pain you will bring forth children; Yet your desire will be for your husband, And he will rule over you."* The Bible speaks of an order of authority in every area of life. Citizens are subject to government, employees and in the military. We are subject to obey as long as one does not ask or try to force you to violate the commands of Scripture. So the order of authority is not an unbiblical command.

The culture for generations has been trying to destroy the biblical view of women. For example in the 1980's a founder and leader of the feminist movement, Gloria Steinem said, *"By the year 2000 we will, I hope, raise our children to believe in human potential, not God."* Another famed leader of the feminist movement also said, *"Since marriage constitutes slavery for women, it is clear that the Women's Movement must concentrate on attacking this institution. Freedom for women cannot be won without the abolition of marriage"* in 1971 the Declaration of Freedom from the feminist doctrine said, *"Therefore, it is important for us to encourage women to leave their husbands and not live individually with men. All of history must be rewritten in terms of oppression of women. We must go back to ancient female religions like witchcraft."*

I could say literally hours worth of this radical anti-God movement, but I won't. Let's get to the heart of a biblical motherhood and womanhood.

Point 1 - The teaching and training of righteous behavior. Vs. 2-3 define this for both men and women. Note some key points of behavior that is to be exalted and taught from a biblical view point. First, there's the description of the Godly woman's behavior, reverent, not a gossip, not given to wine and the key is teaching what is good. And this is a great example of discipleship. We see

Biblical Womanhood and Motherhood

this from the very beginning as a way to instruct children in the ways of God, Deuteronomy 6:6-8
“These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead.”

Teaching what is good is by personal word and example, they must teach what is morally good, noble, and attractive. Also, this is an important factor for mothers. Teaching these principals to their daughters at home. And something that is not particularly popular, it’s not the church’s job to train your children in righteousness. Yes, as a body of Christ we can be a place on help and instruction, but you have far more time at home. Teach them good things, biblical truths each day along the way.

Point 2 - The conjunction “so that” implies the benefits and results of vs. 2-3. There are two points here, the first is love their husbands. A lot can be said here and a lot that’s been misunderstood. Love here is not some rocket ship, bell and whistle, love at first sight. Love is actually learned. Here’s a real eye opener, not all husbands are lovable. Because of time sake I won’t meander here for a while, but it’s important to know that you learn to love over time. Of course you love them and want to marry him, but there is a process of love that grows. The Greek construction has the meaning of “*devoted to husband and children.*”

Illustration: nearly 1/2 of all first time marriages will end in divorce, and 65% of all second marriages end in divorce. Third times a charm right? No, 77% will end in divorce. According to data from 2022, the likelihood of divorce is the highest when you live together before getting married. One more stat for you to enjoy today, the chances of divorce are less likely if your parents have stayed together and you do not live together before marriage. Now that’s the real world stats I’ve given you, but when marriage is taught in the home as between one man and one woman, sexual purity is honored and love is understood as commitment it would seem reasonable marriage will last a lifetime.

Point 3 - To be sensible and pure. This forms another pair as did the previous “*love husbands and love children*”. The word sensible denotes “*discreet, sound mind, self controlled*” and is combined with pure to denote being sensible in sexual activity, only within the confines of marriage. Furthermore the word pure denotes “*chaste, immaculate.*” Combined these two words denote that a biblical woman is to be chaste, pure sexually until marriage. That’s the biblical way, not the world’s way, and the feminist movement in the 60’s which fostered the sexual revolution has degraded woman not “freed” them.

Point 4 - Workers, keepers at home, kind. This is the passage that sets feminists on fire. Being a worker, keeper at home, which does not denote a woman cannot work outside the home. However, God’s design is unique as He has gifted women to be nurtures like none other. If a

Biblical Womanhood and Motherhood

woman works outside the home, she's still a keeper, manager of the home. She is the queen of the home and the biblical wife and mother finds joy in those duties. Paul warns of idleness in 1 Timothy 5:13-15 *"At the same time they also learn to be idle, as they go around from house to house; and not merely idle, but also gossips and busybodies, talking about things not proper to mention. Therefore, I want younger widows to get married, bear children, keep house, and give the enemy no occasion for reproach."* Yes, there's a biblical mandate for a biblical woman. She must therefore cultivate the virtue of being "kind" i.e. benevolent, heartily doing what is good and beneficial to others.

Point 5 - Submissive, subject to authority. Again, a passage that feminist hate because as they say it demeans women. In fact, it does the opposite. This suggests the voluntary submissiveness to the headship of the husband. As John MacArthur notes in his commentary, *"In declaring the spiritual equality of the woman before God (Gal 3:28), Christianity immeasurably elevated her status but did not thereby abolish her functional position as the complement and support of her husband as the head of the home."* Remember Galatians 3:28 *"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."* Cf. Ephesians 5:21-33

Concluding Point - Proverbs 31 and the description of a worthy woman. As I conclude I want to highlight several key (quick) points in this text.

- Vs. 10-11, a wife is above any treasure and a husband trusts her
- Vs. 12, she's not vindictive or wicked towards him
- Vs. 13-14, 16-19, 24 she's makes money and income
- Vs. 15, she maintains the home, rises early and cares for the household
- Vs. 20, she is helping those in need
- Vs. 23, her husband is known and blessed by her godliness and character
- Vs. 26-27, she doesn't speak foolishness but speaks wisdom, she looks after her home
- Vs. 28, her family praise her for her faithfulness
- Vs. 30, beauty is vain, charm is deceitful but a biblical woman FEARS the Lord

The world hates a biblical woman. The world hates that she honors God and reflects Him not her inner self.