

## Liberty Commentary May 14, 2007

As we have just celebrated Mothers Day, it gives us a time to reflect upon the great influence that mothers have had in shaping the lives of their children and grandchildren. It was Abraham Lincoln that once said, "I regard no man as poor who has a godly mother".

Conversely, there is nothing more reprehensible than for a mother to become so engrossed in her own ambitions that she callously abandons her god-given instincts of nurturing and protecting her children. On occasion we hear of atrocious acts perpetrated against children by their mothers such as Susan Smith, who is currently serving a life sentence for strapping her children into their car seats and sending the car down a boat ramp into a Union, South Carolina lake because a man that she had been romantically involved with indicated that he could not continue the relationship because of her children.

Children are a mother's greatest heritage and one of the greatest rewards that a Godly mother can receive is to have her children grow up to honor and serve God with their lives. On the other hand, there is no greater heartache that a godly mother has than to have her children grow up to have no interest in spiritual things, no heart for God, and no interest in passing on a godly heritage to their children.

The mother of Moses was faced with a dilemma when she was confronted with the Pharaoh's mandate that all male Hebrew babies be thrown into the Nile River. Instead of permitting her son to be thrown into the river by the Egyptians, she did what her god-given instincts demanded. God gave her a plan to nurture life and protect her son unlike the selfish actions of Susan Smith.

She put Moses in a basket and the Pharaoh's daughter found Moses floating in the basket and claimed the child as her own. Because of the prayer of a godly mother, pharaoh's daughter unwittingly chose the mother of Moses to nurse the child. Each time Moses' mother would nurse her son she would instill within him those godly characteristics that she knew would one day guide him to accomplish great things for God.

Moses grew up knowing his Jewish heritage and he understood the wickedness that Pharaoh had perpetrated against the Jewish people. One day Moses had an argument with an Egyptian man. In his anger Moses killed the Egyptian. Pharaoh vowed to find Moses and have him pay with his life for what he had done to the Egyptian. Moses fled for his life and for the next forty years he tended his father-in-laws sheep out in the backside of the desert.

Moses had been running from God for forty years living a life outside of Gods will and purpose. Moses' mother had taught him the ways of God and no doubt she had spent many hours on her knees in prayer asking God to use her son to deliver the Israelites from Egyptian bondage.

After forty years of running from God, Moses had an encounter with God at the burning bush. At first Moses resisted the call of God, but the spiritual seeds that had been planted by his godly mother many years afore, began to take root and Moses answered the call of God.

Moses went back to Egypt, confronted the Pharaoh and said, "let my people go". Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, across the Red Sea, where God provided a place of safety for the generations that followed.

If you are a godly mother with children that have drifted from God and have grown cold and indifferent toward spiritual things, don't

give up. Keep loving them, keep praying for them, and keep trusting God to use you to influence and impact their lives in a spiritual way.

Proverbs 22:6 says, “train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it”.

It took forty years for a godly mothers influence and prayers to be answered in the life of Moses. You may never live to realize the godly impact of your influence upon the lives of your children and grandchildren, but never quit praying and loving because just as God used Moses, He can use your children to impact the world through your godly influence that will live on in the generations that follow.

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