

A Mother's Role

BUILDING UP AND TEARING DOWN: Mothers, there is a very important message, a very forgotten message, that I would like to present to you today. And I pray that you will hear me out, or rather, hear the Scriptures out, and realize the the great importance Yahweh places on building generations of righteousness. If you desire it in your home (and I pray that you do), I must say that you can be the greatest single help to your husband (besides Yahweh) or you can be the greatest stumbling block to making it a reality. How can you best help your husband bring it into a reality? You have a very important role and without it, the home will most likely fail: **Proverbs 14:1 Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands.** Surely, you want to be the wise woman that builds her house rather than the foolish woman that "plucketh it down with her hands". Scripture is full of admonitions toward women and examples of how a wise woman conducts herself. **Proverbs 24:3 Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: 4 And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.**

Let's examine the characteristics of a foolish woman. First: **Proverbs 9:13 A foolish woman is clamorous: she is simple, and knoweth nothing.** What does it mean to be "clamorous"? The BDB Lexicon defines this word as 1) *to murmur, growl, roar, cry aloud, mourn, rage, sound, make noise, tumult, be clamorous, be disquieted, be loud, be moved, be troubled, be in an uproar... to growl... to roar to be in a stir, be in a commotion.... to be boisterous.* These characteristics are present in a foolish woman. In context, the foolish and simple woman in Proverbs 9 is a harlot. She is loud, boisterous, murmuring and noisy. Her spirit is disquieted and she is obviously unsatisfied. **Proverbs 7:11 (She is loud and stubborn; her feet abide not in her house: 12 Now is she without, now in the streets, and lieth in wait at every corner.)**

This is in great contrast to the will of Yahweh: **1Pet 3:4 But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of the Almighty of great price. 5 For after this manner in the old time the set-apart women also, who trusted in the Almighty, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: 6 Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him master: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.**

Scripture is worthy of instruction for our lives. When Scripture repeats one concept over and over again, it is

obviously very important. Five times in the book of Proverbs we find one such concept repeated: **Proverbs 21:9 It is better to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a wide house. Proverbs 21:19 It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman. Proverbs 27:15 A continual dropping in a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike.** (See also Proverbs 19:13, 25:24.) Five times within 8 chapters we see the same exact concept repeated. Why is it repeated so often? Its purpose is to admonish and instruct; its message is very clear; it is obvious that the role of a woman in a home is not to contend or brawl. Doing so feeds the desire of a man to go elsewhere. Perhaps it isn't in the wilderness or on the corner of a rooftop, but it is probably at work or with his friends or anywhere but that house! Is it any wonder so many men are not home with their families? Surely, it is their fault alone, but so often their foolish wives feed this destructive cycle with their contentions and brawling.

A wife has great influence over the decisions her husband makes. Many are the examples of the women who brought down their house with their influence. **Genesis 3:6 And when the woman saw that the [forbidden] tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. 1 Kings 11:4 For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with Yahweh his Almighty One, as was the heart of David his father. 1 Kings 21:25 But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of Yahweh, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up.**

Yahweh knew the potential of a foolish woman: **Deuteronomy 7:1 When Yahweh thy Almighty One shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, and hath cast out many nations before thee, 2 [and] shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt... utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them: 3 Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son. 4 For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of Yahweh be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly.** Can we begin to see the influence and importance of a woman's role in the home? She is extremely important to the outcome of the home. She can tear it down with

her hands, or she can build it up. Her speech has a lot to do with it. From contention to clamor to the wearing down of a man with words, a foolish woman has been the destruction of many a man.

Let's now talk about the blessings! In the same way a woman can tear down a house, so can she build it up: **1 Peter 3:1 Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; 2 While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear.** See! A woman's influence can not just turn a man's heart away from Yahweh, but can turn his heart to Yahweh! But, be certain it is not done through nagging and persuading. It is done through chaste conversation and fear. More on this later :)

THE BLESSING OF MOTHERHOOD: If only the women of this generation could see the great blessings of motherhood! But so often the role of a mother is insulted and considered bland, boring and of low skill. But to Yahweh, it is all-important: **1 Timothy 2:15 The woman shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and love and set-apartness with sobriety. Childbearing is the role that a saved woman functions in. Many are the examples of women in scripture that considered childbearing to be of great importance. Rachel was one: Genesis 30:1 And when Rachel saw that she bare Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister; and said unto Jacob, Give me children, or else I die. "Give me children or else I die"! So important was the role of bearing children, that there was a great enmity in Jacob's home because Leah was bearing children and Rachel was barren. Another woman who greatly valued children was Hannah: 1Samuel 1:10 And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto Yahweh, and wept sore. 11 And she vowed a vow, and said, O Yahweh of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto Yahweh all the days of his life.** Yahweh heard Hannah, knowing that she had vowed to give this child to Him. This child became Samuel, a great prophet and priest of Yahweh.

Children are truly a blessing from Yahweh: **Deuteronomy 7:12 Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that Yahweh thy Elohim shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he sware unto thy fathers: 13 And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: he will also bless the fruit of thy womb.... 14 Thou shalt be blessed above all people:**

there shall not be male or female barren among you.... All throughout scripture, Yahweh's opening of a barren womb was considered to be a great blessing. Yahweh did so with many women in scripture. These women were no doubt thankful and appreciated the role of motherhood. If you are a mother with children, praise Yahweh of heaven for the blessing He has poured out on you! It is high time that we lift up the blessing and importance of motherhood! I have had some women say things to me like, "What do I have? I can't go out and be used by Yahweh to bring others to Messiah like my husband. I'm stuck at home with these kids". Such is the attitude of many women today, but it ought not be so! Mothers, you not only have great influence on your husband, you also have great influence on the righteousness of your children. If you had 2 children and 6 generations thereafter had 2 children, you would have influenced 252 children. If you had 5 children and 6 generations thereafter had 5 children, you would have influenced 97,655 children! You have hundreds, if not thousands of people that you influence every day of your life. With every bit of time you spend with your children, with every conversation, every bit of care and every action, you potentially are also (in a sense) doing so with many many others. And not only with your children's children, but consider also the ones that *they* may influence and bring to righteousness. What a shame it would be, if a woman would receive the great blessing of having children, only to see her tear down her house with contentions and brawling and clamor and straying from the faith in Yahweh and the role that Yahweh created her to be in!

A wise woman will bring forth wise children: **Proverbs 10:1 A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother. Proverbs 29:15 The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame. Proverbs 22:15 Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.** Why is it that the mother is brought to shame? She obviously is responsible for spending the greatest amount of time with the children. If her child is left to himself, his foolishness will bring his mother to shame, because she obviously has not driven the foolishness away from him.

It is sad that so many mothers today are looking for substitutes to fill their role. Too often, mothers today use the television or day care centers to babysit their children while they go off and chase careers, etc. Is it any wonder there is a lack of bonding between mother and child in this day and age? With all of the modern-conveniences that should make life easier than ever,

mothers "do not have time" for their homes and families. Yet, they usually find time to watch their TV programs, talk on the phone with friends/relatives, or waste their lives away with other foolish and unprofitable things. It ought not be so!

Yahweh's plan is that parents pass down the faith to their children, for generation after generation. 2 Timothy 1:2 To Timothy, a beloved son: 3 **I thank Elohim, [and] I remember you in my prayers night and day, 4 greatly desiring to see you,.... 5 when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.** His mother and grandmother are commended for their genuine faith. From a child, Timothy was taught the Set-apart Scriptures: **2 Timothy 3:15And that from childhood you have known the Set-apart Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Messiah Yahushua.** Although Timothy was a young man (1Tim 4:12), he was used by Yahweh in a mighty way throughout scripture. Paul considered Timothy his "own son in the faith". Letters to Timothy make up 2 books in the scriptures that we read. What great fruit was borne out of the dedication of his mother and grandmother! Their example should be an inspiration for all mothers to raise a son such as this.

OTHER CHARACTERISTICS OF A RIGHTEOUS WOMAN: **Titus 2:3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behavior as becometh set-apartness,... teachers of good things; 4 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,** Here we see the need for a woman to be sober (that is, temperate and self-controlled). We also see that she should love her husband and children.

2:5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of the Almighty be not blasphemed. The word "discreet" is very closely related to the previously used word "sober". There is a real emphasis on teaching the younger women to have a sound and self controlled mind. Being chaste is another thing that needed to be taught. The meaning behind this is purity. Being a "keeper at home" was also to be taught. This speaks of "working at home", being "devoted to home duties", and "taking care of the home". The women were also taught to be good and obedient to their husbands.

1 Timothy 5:14 I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak

reproachfully. This is yet another scripture uplifting the role of motherhood and the keeping of the home. In both this verse, and in the scripture previously discussed, we see the concern raised that reproach is brought upon a home where a woman is not fulfilling these roles.

CONCLUSION: If these things convict you, take away the reproach! It is time that women appreciate and love what Yahweh has called them to do. If this is what Yahweh has created women to do, then I have no doubt that this is where a woman is happiest. Yahweh created fish to swim in the water, animals to roam on land and birds to fly through the air. All of Yahweh's creation is happiest when it is where it was created to be. The same is true for men and women. Yahweh did not create women to be mighty leaders among men, but to care for the home and for the children. This is where she is happiest.

Therefore, let's cast off the foolish influences of modern society and let's walk in the will of Yahweh for men and women. As we have seen, motherhood is a crucial part of a spirit-filled home of righteousness. Without her, all the efforts of her husband can be in vain. A woman being the wife Yahweh desires her to be has much to do with whether she is building up her house or tearing it down with her hands. Consider the scriptures given about being a true mother to your children and keeper of the home. The right road is narrow and difficult, but surely Yahweh can bless the work of your hands and will be your help. Trust in Him as you walk in His ways. He will bring it to pass. May Yahweh bless you as You do so!

This is the condensed version of an article by Tom Martincic(a.k.a. Eliyah). It was shortened by Rivqah (R. J. Coover) in 02-2005. If you would like to read the entire article, please go to www.eliyah.com/family/mothers.html

To learn more about the Names Yahweh and Yahushua / Yahshua (in contrast to the commonly used titles for the Father and Son), please visit <http://realmessiah.name/pdf/name.pdf> and www.eliyah.com/names.html

To learn more about Yahweh and His ways, please read the Scriptures and pray for Yahweh's wisdom and enlightenment. Also visit the following web sites: www.roadofthepilgrims.joyintheworld.info www.eliyah.com

Yahweh bless you!