

Sunday, May 12, 2019
John 10:22-30
Theme: "ACCEPTING JESUS"

Happy Mother's Day...

It is a good thing to be reminded of the blessings of godly motherhood...

May 8, 1914 was designated as Mother's Day...

Mother's Day reminds me of a mother's love, qualities and characteristics...

There are many biblical characters we can point to...

1. Mary, the mother of Jesus...
2. From the Bible account of King David, featuring the wife of King Saul found in 2 Samuel...
3. The story of a widow who was evicted from her home because she couldn't pay her rent...
4. Hannah: "Untiring sacrifice" speaks of a mother's work and toil for the welfare of the family...

The poet says: "Nobody knows the work it takes, to keep the home together; nobody knows the steps it takes, nobody knows but mother..."

Even with the convenience of some of the newer gadgets and household appliances, motherhood is far from easy...

Most mothers must serve as a cook, housekeeper, seamstress, nurse, doctor, lawyer, counselor, bookkeeper peacemaker, and teacher...

Our mothers cook and serve us each day, throughout the year...

And then there are dishes to be washed and windows to be cleaned and rugs to be vacuumed—and it seems like there is no end...

Mothers deserve our respect...

For most of us, our mothers guided our steps when we were just little children...

They read stories to us as soon as we were old enough to look at pictures...

Mother kissed our hands when they were injured and hurt. We need to honor our mothers because of their untiring sacrifice...

5. Untold Influence of Moses' adoption into a pagan Egyptian household...

Factors that influence our lives include heredity, associations, environment—all these contribute to the sum total of our personalities...

But of all the factors that influence our growth and development, the influence of a mother is the most unique and outstanding...

By the way, the influence of a mother is so great that it is often said, "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world."

The influence of a mother on her children can never be overstated...

The influence and prayers of godly mothers have been a blessing and inspiration in countless lives...

No one else is as close to a little child during the tender and formative years of life, as the mother...

From her lips we learn to speak; from her footsteps we learn to walk; from her attitudes we develop our character...

It is no task under the sun that is greater than rearing boys and girls for God, and sending them out into the world to lead good Christian lives...And so we honor our mothers for their untold influence...

6. Eunice: Unfailing Faith

Despite the difference of opinion as recorded in (vv. 19-21), the Jews now appear in sharp opposition to Jesus...

The scene opens with Jesus at the feast of dedication (Hanukkah...)

Hanukkah is an eight day Jewish celebration commemorating the rededication of the Temple...

Because of Jesus' sayings in verses (vv. 7-18), the Jews demanded that He tell them whether He was the Christ...

Their demand (v. 24) was not hostile..

But Jesus' own unexpected response (vv. 25-30) seems to put the Jews in a challenging position...

Jesus' response left no doubt that the Jews were set apart from His followers ("sheep"...)

So, the Jews were cast in the role of unbelievers, (vv. 26-27)...

But believers are secure in the unity of Jesus and His Father (vv. 28-30...)

Following Jesus was not very difficult for the people of His time...

*He had performed miracles showing that He was the Son of God...

*Still, many found it hard to accept that fact...

Exodus (20:3), the first of the Ten Commandments clearly says that there is only one God and His people should bow to no other...

So, when Jesus claimed to be God, many people did not know what to believe...

They refused to accept His deity because of their own interpretation of the law...

They would not recognize Jesus as the Messiah promised by their own prophets...

*Although the miracles Jesus performed showed that He was God, many, especially His enemies, refused to believe...

Instead, they picked up stones to kill Him...

Many people and religions still refuse to accept Jesus...

*It is not because they doubt His power and miracles...

*It is because their traditions or religions do not allow them to believe that Jesus is the Son of God...

*We need to help our neighbors, friends, and relatives see the love and compassion of Jesus before we help them to see that Jesus is God...

Like the people of Jesus' day, they do not know what to think of Jesus' claims...

Pray that they can see who Jesus truly is...

Pray that they will see Him as not just a great prophet but also as the Son of God...

Amen!