

SHE BROUGHT LIFE TO HER VILLAGE (Judges 5:7)

I. A mother must bring word from the Lord.

- A. A prophetess was a mouthpiece for the Lord.
 - 1. She would receive the word of the Lord and deliver it to the people.
 - 2. I believe this indicates that there was a tremendous lack of male leadership in Israel at this time because you rarely read of a woman being a prophetess in the Old Testament.
 - a. Only five prophetesses are mentioned in the Old Testament.
 - b. The times they occur are at the beginning of the nation of Israel and when the country was in moral decline.
 - c. These women, just as in today's world, were being strong and doing the Lord's will.
- B. Deborah would receive word from the Lord and the people depended on her for this.
- C. Today, mothers must bring the word of the Lord to their children.
- D. Not one mother wants something second-rate for her children.
 - 1. They want to give them the best shoes, clothes, toys or whatever.
 - 2. But what is being worn or played with today is being picked up and moved out of the way tomorrow.
- E. The words of Jesus will never pass away (1 Peter 1:24-25).
- F. Matthew 24:35.
- G. Timothy was one of Paul's faithful companions.
 - 1. Paul had a tremendous influence on Timothy and even referred to him as his son in the faith.
 - 2. But Timothy's faith did not begin with Paul, but with a loving mother and grandmother who taught him the word of God (2 Timothy 1:5).
 - 3. Two generations of mothers that brought word from the Lord are mentioned in this verse.
- H. Who do mothers bring word from the Lord in 2009?
 - 1. The same way they did in the first century.
 - 2. Lois and Eunice took their son and grandson to worship and we must as well.
 - 3. They gave Timothy the Old Testament, they only Bible they had, and we must give our children the Bible today.
 - 4. They read to Timothy and our children need to hear their mothers and fathers reading to them.
- I. Why is it important for them to have a word from the Lord - Psalm 119:9?
- J. Also, all scripture comes from God and only that scripture can bring about faith in Jesus as the Son of God.
- K. A relationship with Jesus is the most important thing your child will ever have and that is why mothers must bring word from the Lord.

II. A mother must give her children encouragement.

- A. Deborah, upon receiving word that God had chosen Barak, gave Barak some needed encouragement.

- B. She encouraged him by being with him and with her words.
- C. Encouragement is one of the greatest tools known to man.
- D. Mothers, do your children have your encouragement?
- E. You need to encourage them with your presence.
 - 1. Nothing is more important to a child than a hug from mom.
 - 2. Children feel they can do anything with mom near.
- F. Do you encourage them with your words?
 - 1. Do you know that it takes ten positive comments to overcome 1 negative comment?
 - 2. I believe that is why the Holy Spirit inspired Paul to pen Ephesians 4:29.
- G. Mothers should use their words to show they care and they should use God's word to show them He cares (Jeremiah 29:11).

III. A mother must hold her children accountable for their actions.

- A. When Barak said he would not go unless Deborah went with him, she said that the glory would go to a woman (Judges 4:8-9).
- B. She held him accountable for his lack of faith in God.
- C. Another name for this is discipline.
- D. We need mothers who are willing to discipline their children.
 - 1. I don't mean holler and scream at them.
 - 2. Discipline them out of love and concern for their spiritual well-being.
- E. If God disciplines His children, which He does, why should we not discipline our children (Hebrews 12:6-8).

IV. A mother must remind her children of God's power.

- A. All of chapter five is a song sung by Deborah and Barak after the victory.
- B. The theme of the song is that God has the power to give them victory.
- C. Notice the way she closes out the song (Judges 5:31).
- D. Our children face an enemy who is seeking to devour them.
- E. We must let them know that "He who is in us is greater than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4).
- F. Ephesians 3:20.