

Saving the Mothers!
(An Exposition of 1 Timothy 2:15)

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The perfect man met the perfect woman and they got married. One Christmas Eve they were driving down the highway and noticed a man stranded by the side of the road. This was no ordinary man. It was Santa Claus! Being the perfect people they were, they offered Santa a ride because he was in a hurry to get his toys delivered. Alas, the roads were slippery, and there was a terrible car crash. Two of the three people were killed. Do you know who survived? The perfect woman! Everyone knows Santa Claus and the perfect man don't really exist.

I think a woman wrote this! How can a mother or women survive in the midst of all the marital confusion and cultural contamination of this world today? How can she take the reins of her life and live for the glory of God? In the midst of an ever-increasing women's liberation movement and the cultural swing away from male leadership in the home and church life, how can a woman do what is right in God's eyes?

The answer is given in 1 Timothy 2:15. Here is God's answer to living above the world's way of doing things, the cultural corruption of Hollywood, Women's Lib and all the rest of the ideological nonsense of our day. Ladies, if you want true fulfillment in life, if you want to overturn the Edenic sinful record of Eve, then follow what this verse says and your life, marriage, home, and husband will be greatly blessed!

1 Timothy 2:15

"Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they (speaking corporately to the mothers – who are bearing or raising children) continue in faith (trust) charity (love) and holiness (purity) with sobriety (soundness of mind)."

This verse in a unique way speaks about "Saving the Mothers!" It reveals to every mother and woman today how she can save (deliver, rescue, preserve) her life from a historic stigma and shame that came upon all women through Eve's sin in the Garden. A mother can save herself from the shameful acts of sin.

This study is not just for mothers but for women in general. As we will see in this verse, when a woman understands what happened in Eden and seeks to correct or overturn the effects of sin and the stigma (shame) that women have received through the Edenic sin, she can live an effective Christian life for the glory of God. In other words, any woman that seeks to live a spiritual or godly life can in one sense turn the tables on what happened in Genesis (a deceived woman leading her husband in sin) and restore Biblical womanhood to her life, marriage, and home. No mother or woman needs to follow the pattern of Eve and Eden. She can be saved from this stigma and live an effective and fulfilling life for the glory of God if she does not repeat the sin of Eve (independence, personal gratification, and liberation from male leadership).

A mother can save herself from the shameful acts of sin.

This is demonstrated in two ways.

1. Through the salvation that is promised

“Notwithstanding she shall be saved in (through) childbearing.”

This has been interpreted in various ways. Let me give you the unlikely interpretations. Some suggest that this refers to godly mothers being saved in the actual physical birth process. In other words, a woman will physically survive the trauma of childbirth. Of course, this is foreign to the context nor can it be true for many godly mothers and even their children have lost their lives through history in birthing children. Actually, this verse is talking about the mother raising children and not the physical birth process. The term “childbearing” does not only mean giving physical birth but raising children and teaching them how to live a fruitful, godly, and productive life in society. This is what the word means in this passage as we will see. Strong’s says this about the word: “The bearing of children, and thus by implication including all the duties of the maternal relation.”

Second, some suggest that a woman can receive spiritual salvation through physical childbirth. If a woman dies in the process of bearing a child, then she will automatically go to heaven. However, we know from Scripture that this cannot be true for sinners are justified by faith in Christ, not by any works of righteousness, which would include the worthy deed of childbirth.

Third, a common view is that the woman will experience salvation through “the” childbearing. The use of the definite article in the Greek language (“The childbearing”) is said to specifically point to the incarnation and virgin birth of Christ through Mary. Eve was saved by faith in the promised seed of the woman who was Christ (Gen. 3:15). Therefore, women today can be saved from sin through faith in Christ. Others similarly suggest Paul may be arguing that women will be saved because a woman (Mary) helped bring about the defeat of the devil. However, this view seems to be looking for someone (Mary) who is not there! The definite article (“the childbearing”) could simply be referring to the specific and primary role that women were to have in raising children (motherhood).

Many do espouse this view that women would experience salvation through the Messiah but it is very foreign to the context and what Paul is actually teaching regarding the women’s role in the Genesis Fall and the ramifications that came about as a result from Fall.

1 Timothy 2:14

“And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.”

In Genesis three we find “The Edenic Women’s Liberation Movement.” The woman was said to be in the “transgression” (overstepping God’s boundaries, violating God’s will for her life when taking the lead over Adam). Paul is not saying that Adam was blameless (Rom. 5:12–21) but that Eve was blinded. She transgressed God’s revelation while being deceived. This becomes like a secondary confirmation and reason for God’s pattern of male authority and leadership.

The Fall resulted not only because of disobedience to God’s command, but from violating God’s appointed creative roles for the sexes. Although Adam was not deceived by Satan, as was Eve, he still chose to disobey God. As the head of their relationship, he bore the ultimate responsibility for plunging the human race into sin. This is why the New Testament relates the Fall to Adam’s sin, not Eve’s (Rom. 5:12–21; 1 Cor. 15:21–22).

Although Adam, as the head and leader of the human race took the hit or blame for sin coming into the world, Eve was not guiltless. She was deceived and directed Adam to sin against God’s will. Therefore, the

woman was said to be “in the transgression” (vs. 14). She blindly shared in the transgression by leading Adam in open rebellion against the clear revelation of God. This helps us to put 1 Timothy 2:15 in its historic context and make a correct interpretation.

Eve was seen to have transgressed God’s law, following the serpent’s suggestions, and she committed a shameful transgression in leading Adam into open rebellion against God. This act resulted in shaming her role as a woman, and Biblical womanhood in general, for which she was created (Adam’s helper – not leader). This shame and sinful tendency was in some sense passed down to every woman and this is what a Christian woman and mother needs to be delivered from today. Living independently not only from God’s will but also her husband authority.

In the framework of this context Paul is NOT talking about the spiritual salvation of the soul (1 Timothy 2:15) but a mother’s present-day sanctification (salvation in her daily life over sin) when “she” (as a woman) becomes a godly mother and raises children for the glory of God. The “salvation” is referring to a present-day deliverance from the shameful record of the past (Eve’s acts of sin) provided she walks with the Lord.

Lilley writes:

“She shall be saved from the results of sin and be enabled to maintain a position of influence in the Church by accepting her natural destination as a wife and mother, provided this surrender is further ratified by bringing forth the fruit of sanctified Christian character.”

Eve passed down a shameful record upon all women that in one sense needs to be overturned by godly living and mothers who raise children for God’s glory. This seems to be the true and best understanding of this text. Again, the salvation of a mother’s soul is not in question but the salvation (deliverance over sin) through sanctified and godly living (holiness), which will result in a mother erasing the effects of Eve’s sinful record upon her life and raising children for God’s honor and glory.

Let’s put the entire teaching and thought of the verse together - “Notwithstanding she shall be saved in (through) childbearing.”

In summary, the “childbearing” refers not to birthing children but in this case, raising children for God’s glory. The Greek word for “childbearing”

(teknogonia) can refer to the performance of maternal duties (motherhood). The “salvation” refers to present-day sanctification (holiness) in the mother’s life. A woman can be saved from Eve’s shameful record of rebellion and defeat. Instead of spiritual defeat she can “in childbearing” (through the process of raising children) live victoriously over sin and raise her children for the glory of God.

A Christian woman can be saved from an unsanctified life of shame regret, and defeat** if she counteracts the Edenic pattern set by Eve. She will be saved from the stigma that is passed upon women through Eve’s actions and raise her children to be servants of the Lord. A woman is saved from the ongoing ill effects of the Genesis record when she submits to her husband’s spiritual leadership, refuses to listen to Satan’s deceptions to live independent of her God-given role, and raises her children in the home for the honor and glory of Jesus Christ! This is what Paul is teaching when he says, “Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing.” She can experience sanctification in her life, be delivered from sin, while she raises her children for God!

Ladies, do you want to save your marriage? Do you want to save your children? Then save yourself by not living in rebellion against God’s role for your life. Don’t follow Eve’s pattern of rebellion but God’s blueprint for your life!

Raising children is a fun and challenging time of life. You know, there are Four Things Children Have Learned

1. No matter how hard you try, you can’t baptize cats.
2. When your mom is mad at your dad, don’t let her brush your hair.
3. You can’t trust dogs to watch your food.
4. You can’t hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.

Once again, this text is talking about “childbearing” or the maternal duties of a mother that raises her children in a godly manner. A mother can experience sanctification in her life and raise her children for God’s glory because she can live a sanctified life, experience deliverance from Eve’s shameful record of the past, and counteract Eve’s rebellion.

The pronoun “they” (1 Timothy 2:15) is referring to godly mothers. Eve in some manner brought about the Fall by leading Adam into sin and women have this same shameful record passed on to them. However, godly woman in general (“they”), through practical sanctification in their lives can be delivered from this stigma or blemished record, if they take their role seriously as a mother and raise godly children. In one sense, a woman can turn the tables on the stigma (the shameful deed of leading Adam into sin), which in some sense has been passed down upon all women.

Some women take offense to having Eve’s sin carried over to them and receiving a stigma (shameful and blemished record) of disobedience and spiritual defeat passed upon women in general. Ladies, it’s clear that Eve’s sin (a woman’s liberation from male leadership, independence, living for selfish desire) is in some way inherently passed down from one generation of women to the next, even as Adam’s sin has been passed down to the entire human race (“in Adam all have sinned” - Rom. 5:12).

History often repeats itself. We can’t deny this and the same is true with women seeking to dominate the home and live outside the sphere of their role as a submissive and godly woman raising her children.

Someone said:

“History repeats itself because nobody listens or history repeats itself because the world doesn’t learn.”

Ladies, you must learn from Eve’s sinful record and seek to restore godliness to your personal life and home. History is repeating itself in the lives of many women today. What happened in Eden had and continues to have historic and unchanging ramifications on the world of women and men! We can’t wiggle out of it. We have inherited the sin and stigma (shame) that goes along with the sins that were committed in Eden. This is true of not only women but men. The only way we can overturn these shameful acts is by grace. We must be transformed by God’s grace so that the stigma (shameful record) of the past does not keep us from doing God’s will today.

Paul is saying that the only way a woman can reverse the shameful record of Eve’s disobedience is by experiencing sanctification in her life while raising godly seed (children). Of course, there are many ways any woman might do this through godly living (Christiana virtues, serving others, etc.)

but in the context of raising children and motherhood Paul impresses upon a woman's heart how she can "save herself" (experience daily sanctification in her life) while raising children ("childbearing") in spite of Eve's record of disobedience and failure. The woman saves herself through sanctified living, which can be manifested by changing her sinful patterns and raising her children for God's glory.

Yes, mothers must be delivered, while raising their children, through the ongoing process of sanctification (holy living). This "salvation" or sanctification over sin will result in raising children that will count for God and live for Him. Mother, save yourself! You can live victoriously instead of rebelliously, while you raise your children, and bring up children that will live for God. This is God's promise to you in 1 Timothy 2:15. You can save yourself, sanctify your life through applying God's victory to your life, while you raise your children.

1 Timothy 4:16 is a similar verse:

"Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee."

Saving yourself does not refer to salvation from hell but saving yourself from sinful patterns of life and acts of rebellion against God's design for your own personal life and marriage. You can save yourself from a lot of sin and family pain and heartaches when you follow truth and do what is right. However, you must take the initiative to follow the right path and do the right thing and then the victory and blessing will come. You must take time to be holy!

If you accidentally cut yourself and are bleeding profusely you need to make a makeshift tourniquet in order to save yourself. If you are bitten by a rattlesnake you must make your way to the hospital as fast as you can to save yourself by getting anti-venom. You must take action to save yourself. The same is true in relationship to sanctification.

A mother, while taking on the role of "childbearing" (raising children), can save herself from the sinful effects and stigma (shame) of the Genesis Fall by living above the decisions and direction that Eve took. She does not have to follow the same path as Eve did in trying to lead her husband and go her own way but find her satisfaction and significance in her role of motherhood. She will "save herself" through practical sanctification

(holiness) from the stigma placed upon all women because of the Genesis Fall and in one sense reverse the evil that has come about because of the woman's original departure from the God-given role of the sexes and in the marriage unit.

This interpretation seems to fit best with what Paul just previously talked about and puts everything into perspective concerning a woman's place.

1 Timothy 2:12-13

"But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve."

The feminist teachers of today claim Paul's teaching was prompted by some cultural situation at Ephesus and is not applicable today. Feminists ought to leave their hands off the Bible! There is no cultural condition on which this command is based. It's God's creative condition! Paul appeals to the creation account in Genesis 2 and also taught this same truth to the Corinthians (1 Cor. 11:8-9).

Women try to get around the Biblical teaching of headship in marriage by defining the term "head" as a source of blessing but not necessarily as a leader. This is an attack and assault on the historic Scriptures! Based upon God's creative headship, which was established at the time of creation, man was to be the leader. This carries over into the leading roles and positions in the church. Only men were to be leaders, pastors and deacons.

A woman was never to "usurp authority" (exercise dominion over the man) or male leadership in the church. Period!! The reason for this command is because of creation - "For Adam was first formed, then Eve." Male headship did NOT result from the Genesis Fall (the Fall was only a secondary confirmation of what God had initially or already built into creation - vs. 14). Male headship stems from the Genesis creation! This is the way God designed the family unit! It's the way He designed the Church. Christ is Head of the universal Church and men are to be head of the local churches since this is the way God designed it.

The expression "to be in silence" means that women are to keep quiet in the *sense of not teaching*. They are to demonstrate subjection by not usurping the authority of the elder or preacher. Of course, this command does not entirely rule out women teaching. Priscilla and Aquila both

instructed Apollos (Acts 18:26), but in private and not in the worship of the church. And women can and must teach other women (Titus 2:3–4). What this means is that women cannot teach during the public worship of the church. The issue is where a woman's spiritual gifts are exercised.

Sometimes there is a shortage of men on the mission field. One missionary woman personally found herself in a situation where no men were present and she was more biblically trained to handle the Word. Rather than violating the Scripture, she would prepare the message or lesson and teach it to a native man, who would then be the preacher when the church gathered.

Someone said:

“Women must stop believing the devil's lie that the only role of significance is that of leadership.”

Serving is the key; we need a servant's heart.

“Make me a servant humble and meek
Lord let me lift up those who are weak
And may the prayer of my heart always be
Make me a servant make me a servant
Make me a servant today.”

Even Jesus was submissive to the Father while He was here on earth. Submission does NOT mean inferiority but service. Ladies, your significance and satisfaction is found in submission to your husband and to male church leadership. This is what the Bible teaches. If you live outside this realm, you will be missing out on God's design and plan for your life.

I always like to ask women preacher's one question. How can a woman be a pastor when the Bible gives this requirement: “he's to be the husband of one wife” (1 Tim. 3:2 - he is never to have been divorced but married only once). Eve's rebellion is being recreated today in many churches. There is a giant rebellion of women preachers that has invaded the mainline liberal churches and charismatic churches of our day. I can say with full authority, based upon the clear, non-cultural, binding command of God's Word and the creation account of Genesis that every woman preacher is out of order and is following in some way the same rebellion of Eve, when she stands in front of the church as a teacher.

Women preachers are recreating the Edenic rebellion to some degree by attempting to reverse the roles that God designed and lead as Eve did. No, not every woman preacher is trying to lead the church into sin, but they are mocking God's creative roles when they stand up in front of men in the local congregations and speak with authority. Women are out of place when they do this and God will have the final say on women preachers when they stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ someday (2 Cor. 5:10). God does not look upon "role reversal" lightly. This is true in the church and home. Disobedience is disobedience no matter which you cut the pie!!

God has provided a way for every woman to reverse the effects and shame of the Genesis Fall, which involved a woman overtaking the man's role of leadership. Ladies, the way you save yourself from this shameful or blemished record passed upon womanhood is to become a submissive woman and a mother who raises godly children that will count for God. While being a mother and raising children, you can be saved from the rebellion and sinful effects passed on from Eden.

How can you do this? How can you live a godly life? The answer is found in our next point. Ladies, you need to be changed by God's grace and live a spiritual life! Many times we ask a non-believing person without Christ, "Are you saved?" But I want to ask all *believing* mothers – "Are you saved?" I don't mean, are you saved from hell and judgment. Are you being saved from the stigma (shameful record of the past) and from an unsanctified pattern of living which was witnessed in the actions of Eve? You don't have to repeat Eve's sins of living in fleshly independence from her husband and experiencing spiritual defeat. You can be saved from this type of living when you experience God's sanctifying grace in your life, become a godly woman, and raise godly children for the glory of God – "she shall be saved in (through) childbearing" (raising children). Mom, you can be saved from losing your family and children, if you follow God's will for your marriage and life. You don't have to repeat Eden; you can follow God's plan and purpose for your life!

Yes, a mother can save herself from the shameful acts of sin. This is first demonstrated through the salvation that is promised to every mother. But we must go on in our study.

2. Through the spirituality that is needed

1 Timothy 2:15

“Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.”

Ladies, how can you do it? How can you live a life that will counteract “The Edenic Women’s Liberation Movement” and follow God’s will for your life, which involves raising children for God’s glory? You can only do it when you make the determination to change your life by God’s transforming grace and manifest the kind of virtues that will impact your own personal life, your husband, and children.

Negatively, we have seen what you cannot do – usurp authority (1 Tim. 2:12). But positively, we now discover what you can do – raise children for the glory of God and find your fulfillment in God’s role for your life (1 Tim. 2:15). Don’t take control of your husband but by all means take control over the lives of your children and bring them up to live victoriously and godly in the midst of this degenerate society. Ladies, your pulpit and sermon is to be primarily in the home! Have you been a good preacher in your home? What kind of sermons have you been giving to your children by your life and lips?

Notice:

a. The determination to live a spiritual life

The Bible says, “If they continue” (1 Tim. 2:15). This is the “if” of desire, determination, and personal free will. It suggests that this salvation (sanctification) is conditioned upon a woman’s continued walk in the faith, in love, in holiness, and in self-control.

Colossians 1:21-23 is a similar verse:

“And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled: In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight: If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel ...”

Ladies, the ball is in your court! What do you want to do with your life? What will your children grow up to be like? What will your answer be? There is no magic in having personal victory, changing your home life, and living for God's glory. You must want to do it with all of your heart! You must have a deep longing and desire to live out a spiritually profitable life, through submission and godly living, instead of living independent of God's purpose for your life. You only do what you want to do! Nobody is force-feeding you but the Holy Spirit is prodding you on to live for Jesus Christ. What will your answer be? The way that you choose to live will give the answer! Each mother must take the initiative to do what is right for her own life and family. She must take action to live victoriously and make an active decision to live for God every day.

2 Corinthians 7:1

"Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."

Cleansing yourself from sin means that you desire to live a life that is committed to holiness. It means that you will take every opportunity and effort to do what is necessary to change your manner of living. You must be determined to live for God or else you won't stay committed to His purpose for your life.

b. The distinct qualities of a spiritual life

1 Timothy 2:15 declares, "if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety." If they (mothers) continue suggests that this salvation (sanctification) is conditioned upon a woman's spirituality or her continued walk in the faith, in love, in holiness, and in self-control. If you want to live a spiritual life while raising your children, then apply these Christians virtues to your life and practice them.

There are four qualities of spirituality.

a. Surety ("faith")

This means being sure of something – banking on it! There are various areas where faith can be expressed. We are to have faith in God's person, God's promises, and God's power for victory. In this context, we can be

sure that God has won the victory for us over sin and we can walk by faith in this victory and provision.

As a mother and woman, you can live confidently possessing the assurance or faith that you need to get through life victoriously. We are talking now about faith in God (strong faith!). Faith is still the victory!

1 John 5:4

“For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.”

Ladies, you can't be “saved” from the world, the flesh, and the devil “in childbearing” (in the process of raising children) unless you live and walk by faith in God's victorious promises and provision. Faith is what gets you through the day when the children are being bad. Faith is what gets you through the tough times. Faith in God, His Word and promises is what keeps you from going down in defeat (anger, unforgiveness, lust, etc.).

It's also a dynamic faith in God's Son, Jesus Christ, who won the victory over the devil that will grant us victory. Listen, Jesus not only *paid* it all on the cross, He *won* it all! He defeated the devil on the cross and won the victory over the realm of darkness.

Colossians 2:15

“And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.”

This means that by faith you can claim the victory over the devil and what he is trying to do in your life. Satan is out on bond but He is a defeated foe. I know, I have read the end of the book! He will be cast into the Lake of Fire someday. Ladies, you don't have to live in defeat; you choose to live in defeat. When you harbor bitterness in your heart, you are living in defeat. When you can't forgive and are allowing various sins to capture and control your heart, then you must apply faith to your life and situation. Faith is the victory that overcomes the world.

We can through aggressive prayer and faith turn our hearts over to the Lord and find the victory we need over unforgiveness, anger, and bondage to sin.

2 Corinthians 1:24 declares:

“Not for that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand.”

Ladies, you don't have to live in defeat; you can walk by faith! O glorious victory that overcomes the world! Have you been walking by faith in God's victorious promises and provision or have you been walking as a failure? Maybe today you need confess some sin in your heart (hatred, bitterness, anger) and get rid of it. You can only do this by confession (1 John 1:9) and then walk by faith in God's victorious provision through Jesus Christ.

What saves a mother from Eve's decision to walk independently of her husband and live her own life of selfishness and rebellion? It takes faith – a strong, growing, living, and vibrant faith. Mother, save yourself! Possess and unwavering faith in God and His Word to get you through your childrearing years.

b. Sympathy (“love”)

This refers to a heart of compassion for God and your family. God has called every mother to love her husband and children unconditionally.

Titus 2:4 gives instruction to the older women:

“That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children.”

There are many mothers today who are simply not loving their children as they should. They put their careers and everything else before and above their children. One mother felt she had all she could take. During a long winter, sickness and accident had struck just about everyone in her home. Mumps, measles, a broken nose, a broken leg, and four new teeth for the baby made pressures and demands accumulate until she fell on her knees in protest and desperation, "Oh Lord! I have so much to do." To her amazement what came out was quite different. The words she heard herself cry out were these: "Oh Lord! I have so much to love!"

Instead of training and teaching the children as they should, and having a godly influence around them, many moms opt for others to essentially raise their children. Their aim, ambitions, and desires are self centered. They are not willing to lovingly sacrifice their lives, as they should, for their children.

Love is a sacrifice that can be seen in almost every phase of life.

Someone wrote:

“Mother is a person who, seeing there are only four pieces of pie for five people, promptly announces she never did care for pie.”

Without realizing it, many moms are caught up with feminism instead of true femininity! Ladies, only a Holy Spirit, wrought love in your heart for your husband children will cause you to sacrifice your life for their good and benefit instead of your own!

Then too, you must possess an undying love for God!

Mark 12:30

“And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.”

Do you love Him today? Where is your heart's devotion and desire? Do you take time to be holy and have devotions with the Lord? Do you talk with Him, walk with Him, and enjoy His presence? How you spend your time will demonstrate how much you love your God! What saves a mother from Eve's decision to walk independently of her husband and live her own life of selfishness and rebellion? It takes love! Love for your husband, children, and God! Love will lead you on and get you through anything! As a mother and wife, you need to possess an undying, selfless love for your family.

In the December 31, 1989 Chicago Tribune, the editors printed their photos of the decade. One of them, by Michael Fryer, captured a grim fireman and paramedic carrying a fire victim away from the scene. The blaze, which happened in Chicago in December 1984, at first seemed routine. But then firefighters discovered the bodies of a mother and five children huddled in the kitchen of an apartment.

Fryer said the firefighters surmised, "She could have escaped with two or three of the children but couldn't decide who to pick. She chose to wait with all of them for the firefighters to arrive. All of them died of smoke inhalation." The point is this; there are times when you just don't leave those you love. You are there for them always and forever! That is love! Mother, save yourself! Practice undying love.

c. Separation (holiness)

1 Peter 1:16:

“Be ye holy; for I am holy.”

God has called every mother and woman to a life of consecration to His purity. Holiness means that you live your life in such a way that your attitude, actions, and aspirations in life reflect purity or that which is wholesome. The word “holiness” is lost behind all of the sleazy dressing and carnal actions of women today. Ladies, dressing to show-off your body to other men is not holiness – it’s harlotry. Yes, it’s a form of harlotry that seeks to lure men and capture their hearts in lust. Stop playing the harlot! Stop playing the game! Be holy!

Flirting and running around will destroy your marriage. Don’t do it! You need to live free from immorality and carnality. Chastity has gone out of style these days! We live in a day of adult movies, marching sodomites in Washington D.C. and demanding feminists. It is an age of “the new morality” and moral relativism and humanism.

Someone wrote:

The new morality is nothing more than the old immorality that is now openly accepted and endorsed. Most of the familiar landmarks of common decency and morality are gone. We have banished the Bible from the classrooms and the Ten Commandments from the courts. The senseless pursuit of the demonized and haunted cultic practices of our day, with the indulgence in drugs and liquor and pornography, all are against moral chastity. But God’s Word commands every Christian woman to be “chaste” (Titus 2:4) or pure in her actions and thinking.”

More than ever the younger women in church life must remember to live different, be decent, and become disciplined in life in her manner of dress and living (Titus 2:14). When Boaz first met and talked with Ruth he said in Ruth 3:11: And now, my daughter, fear not; I will do to thee all that thou requirest: for all the city of my people doth know that thou art a virtuous woman. Ladies, God wants you to remain pure in your heart and living and marriage. Furthermore, God will honor your purity and bless your family!

My wife read something the other day that she shared with me. I think it is worth reading at this point:

“Modest apparel simply means cover up what needs to be covered. Do not wear skin tight clothing, skirts that show a lot of leg, shirts that are so low cut one cannot bend over, clothing that can be seen thru. It simply means dress appropriately (1 Timothy 2:9, "women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array.").

“For married and elderly Christian women this is extremely important. Young girls should be able to look up older Christian women with respect (Titus 2: 3-5). It is hard for anyone to respect a Christian woman who chooses to dress and act like everyone else in the world (Romans 12:2, "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, acceptable, and perfect, will of God").”

Women naturally want to look good and be desired, but there is a line between looking pretty and looking for attention. Be modest in appearance; do not attract the wrong attention. When worshipping the Lord, cover up and go to church to worship God, not to show off.

Of course, purity extends to other areas than just modesty and faithfulness in marriage. Purity should be reflected not only to the way you present yourself in society but to the kind of books you read, the things you watch to on TV, the music you listen. Ladies, give your children the gift of godly music! Play only holy music in the home setting. Learn the patterns of worldly music and steer away from the type of music that is carnally based (fleshly) and which can lead your children astray and into worldly patterns of living. Yes, holiness extends to the very thoughts and intents of your heart and to your attitudes and actions before others (your husband and children) should demonstrate purity and holiness.

Someone said:

“When mama ain’t happy, then no one is happy!”

Holy living is not manifested when you are angry, unforgiving, quarrelsome, divisive, and trying to override the leadership of your husband in the home. Holy living is not witnessed when you direct abusive and hurtful language before your children and husband. Ladies, if you are going to “save” your marriage, husband, children from a lot of heartache and misery and raise

your children for God's glory, then you will have to live a holy and sanctified life. There are no shortcuts to spiritual living. But one thing is certain; holiness is the only way! What saves a mother from Eve's decision to walk independently of her husband and live her own life of selfishness and rebellion? It takes separation! Holy living!

In his commentary on Isaiah, H. A. Ironside tells of some boys who caught two chirping baby finches. They decided to teach these birds to sing by placing them in a small cage and hanging it next to the cage of a pet canary. The canary, of course, sang beautifully, so the boys thought if the finches were close to it they too would become good songbirds. Several weeks went by with no apparent results. Then one day the youngsters were startled by a strange sound coming from the canary's cage. "Listen," said one of them, "the canary is chirping like a finch."

God has not called you to look, sound, and live like the world. Furthermore, if you are hanging around the wrong people, going to the wrong places, and watching, reading, or listening to the wrong things, it will have an adverse impact upon your life and family. Mother, save yourself! Live a life that is geared around holy living and not self-centered living.

d. Self-control (sobriety)

The word "sobriety" (soberness) means that you steer clear and stay clean from alcohol. Although there is a metaphorical meaning being given here sobriety would naturally mean to stay away from alcohol, which influences you negatively. If you play with alcohol, the kind of strong drink that the world is pushing today, you are playing with fire! You are playing Russian Roulette with your personal life and your family. Ladies, you won't win the battle over booze if you are drinking it!! Stay away from it! Get off the sauce!

The word "sobriety" means soberness but by extension it has the idea of self control and soundness of mind. Self control is to be the theme of your lives as ladies. You are to have self control over your actions, mind, what you say, what you think, what you eat, how you express yourselves, your emotions, and on and on! As a woman, you must take control over your life, over sins, phobias, disorders, and discipline your mind and life by God's grace, in order to live victoriously over all of these things.

Many women are defeated because they are trapped by the dictates of the culture. Some ladies think that if they are not a size 6 then they are somehow no longer feminine. Listen, stop following the world's standards! Many ladies are absorbed and defeated over their appearance (I'm too big, too slim, too tall, too small). Get over it! Live for Jesus! Discipline your mind, your heart and life, and go on with Jesus and for Jesus! Self control includes sober or right thinking regarding the philosophies of this world and sin's power and pleasures. Self control and right thinking will keep you, as a woman, from falling into cultural traps and the mindset of what others think. What does God think? This is what counts!

What saves a mother from Eve's decision to walk independently of her husband and live her own life of selfishness and rebellion? It takes self-control! It takes right thinking. And ladies, right thinking will lead to right living! Mothers, save yourself. Stay sober from a spiritual perspective and you will keep thinking and living right.

This text gives us a very wonderful promise; "she shall be saved in childbearing" (raising her children). You can claim this promise and get back on the road of sanctification and godly living.

The old saying is true:

"The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world!"

The impact that godly mothers have on their children will come back to them. As their children grow up they will become influential Christians and possess leading positions and glorify God with their lives.

Someone wrote:

"A child without a mother is like a door without a knob."

Children need direction that comes from a godly mother. An ounce of mother is often worth more than a ton of clergy! Children need motherly and spiritual direction. As a mother, have you been giving this to your children?

Here is the promise that is found in 1 Timothy 2:15:

"Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety."

God can save both you and your family! Are you a saved mother? Are you experiencing the salvation, the present-day sanctification and victory that you can have over Eve's rebellion and the Genesis Feminist Movement? What are your priorities for your marriage? What are your goals for your marriage and children? Have you been submissive to your husband's leadership? Are you ready to live a holy and consecrated life for God, your husband, children, and for yourself?

What do you need to be saved (delivered) from today? What specific sin? Are there some past sins and failures that you need to get victory over? How about right now? What has been keeping you bound? Mother, save yourself! You can be saved by God's transforming victory and grace when you choose to walk a different path than Eve did.

Saving the mothers is very important for the hour in which we live. This is because many mothers are being defeated by cultural contamination and philosophies, worldliness, immodestly, liquor, polluted music, infidelity, drugs, and everything else that comes down the pike. Ladies, it's time for your salvation (deliverance) from sinful and selfish living.

A cartoon in the Saturday Evening Post showed a young boy about five or six years old talking on the telephone, saying, "Mom is in the hospital, the twins and Roxie and Billie and Sally and the dog and me and Dad are all home alone." Yes, the home is not really a home without a mother! However, it's a godly mother that is needed in the home, so her life and ministry to her family will impact them in a spiritual way. Therefore, a mother can save herself from the shameful acts of sin. Ladies, stop sinning and save (sanctify) yourself, marriage, and children! Don't follow Eve's rebellion, follow God's eternal truth and find satisfaction and fulfillment in your marriage and home. Mother, save yourself!