

Sermon to the Saints of God assembled at Topeka, KS: Sunday, June 5, 2022

She Shall Be Saved in Childbearing

In my last two sermons, we looked at a number of current events that speak to the deep corruption of the generation that we live amongst, and the Satanic lies that are fueling this wicked engine. We looked at some of the elements of “deep corruption” (**Hosea 9:9**), including pride, abundance of idleness, lawlessness, extreme sexual immorality, and violence; those same elements that have been harbingers of destruction since the beginning. In the weeks since I last preached, the headlines continue to be filled with indicators of this deep corruption, including:

- Pride month is in full swing, and is more oppressive than ever, as these brute beasts have a stranglehold on the American government and corporations.
- America seems poised for civil war in defense of a woman’s “right” to murder her babies in the womb. These merciless women are willing to tear down the whole structure of American government if it means that they can have their way on this issue.
- In the meantime, God continues to punish this wicked nation in the form of maniacs with guns. I was in Texas for business last week when I got the news alert about the shooting in Uvalde, TX - the latest of 200+ mass shootings in America during 2022. 19 children (5th grade), and 2 teachers killed by an 18 year old. The sorrow of that situation is palpable, and yet it is exactly what this generation has bought and paid for! When you callously rip babies from the womb by the millions, God’s justice demands an answer!
 - **Jeremiah 5:1-9; 30,31** *“1 Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon it. 2 And though they say, The LORD liveth; surely they swear falsely. 3 O LORD, are not thine eyes upon the truth? thou hast stricken them, but they have not grieved; thou hast consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction: they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to return. 4 Therefore I said, Surely these are poor; they are foolish: for they know not the way of the LORD, nor the judgment of their God. 5 I will get me unto the great men, and will speak unto them; for they have known the way of the LORD, and the judgment of their God: but these have altogether broken the yoke, and burst the bonds. 6 Wherefore a lion out of the forest shall slay them, and a wolf of the evenings shall spoil them, a leopard shall watch over their cities: every one that goeth out thence shall be torn in pieces: because their transgressions are many, and their backslidings are increased. 7 How shall I pardon thee for this? thy children have forsaken me, and sworn by them that are no gods: when I had fed*

them to the full, they then committed adultery, and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses. 8 They were as fed horses in the morning: every one neighed after his neighbour's wife. 9 Shall I not visit for these things? saith the LORD: and shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this? ... 30 A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land; 31 The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?"

Isaiah 3:9-12 *"9 The shew of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves. 10 Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings. 11 Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him. 12 As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths."*

This passage comes to mind a lot as we watch this nation implode; this is the third sermon in a row that I've referenced it. Rather than just read it again, let's look at it a little closer today, as it will be informative for where we are headed in this sermon.

Children are their oppressors, and women rule over them:

- Here we find another harbinger of a nation that is headed for destruction. This is a sign of long term rot; the moth has slowly been eating away at the fabric of society until you look up one day and there is no soundness left in it. You don't get to this awful state of affairs overnight.
- **Children are their oppressors:**
 - The imagination of man's heart is "evil from his youth" (**Genesis 8:21**), and "foolishness is bound in the heart of a child". (**Proverbs 22:15**) These are truisms that we have all seen in ourselves, and our own children. "A child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame" (**Proverbs 29:15**). We live in a generation that has made an artform of leaving a child to himself; rather than putting the yoke of godly obedience on a child and training them to carry it (**Proverbs 22:16**), this generation has taught children that the foolish thoughts of their hearts are to be nurtured, cherished, and violently inflicted on everyone around them. Left to their own devices, children are selfish, proud, untempered, myopic, and have no regard for consequences. "I thought it, I want it, I deserve it, give it to me – NOW!" As they grow to the strength of their youth, they gain physical and mental strength, but completely lack the wisdom and prudence of experience; in fact they disdain and dismiss any counsel of those with experience. When you turn children

loose to raise themselves, and to believe that they should inflict their nonsense loudly and violently on everyone around them, then you are inviting them to oppress you.

- **Women rule over them:**

- Just reading this verse out loud in this day and age makes me a he-man-woman-hater; a card carrying member of the “patriarchy” that ought to be exiled from society. Call me what you want – I’m going to lean on the word of God, rather than the wisdom of wicked men. While I’m not going to spend time defending against that nonsense, I do want to make a couple of caveats:
 - I’m not interested in down home, good-ol-boy “Christian” definitions of women. This has nothing to do with “get in the kitchen and make me a pie”. I want to stick to the scriptures for the definition of gender roles, and the sins that easily beset each.
 - Women are certainly not to be the head of the house, or teaching doctrine in the church, but women have a tremendously important and valuable role in the family, the church, and in society generally. The scriptures give us examples of godly women in positions of leadership in society, ex: Deborah the righteous judge of Israel. (**Judges 4:5**) A woman’s primary and typical role is to “guide the house”, but that does not exclude her from being in a leadership role in society. Where that kind of leadership naturally occurs, because of a particular woman’s gifts, disposition, and circumstance, it is an excellent thing. However, it is not a goal to be desired in itself, particularly where it conflicts with her primary work of guiding her house. The notion of a “career woman” – as it’s own goal – is a satanic farce. Whether male or female, “careers” are a means to an end. They are the way that we provide for our family, our brethren in Christ, our ability to minister the Gospel, and be contributing members of society that love our neighbors. So then women should be working to earn a paycheck if that’s what is needed to provide for herself or her family. The need is the driver, not #LifeGoals.
- What is the sinful and destructive thing that is referenced by “women rule over them”? It begins with the order of the human creation, and the sin of Eve in the Garden.
 - **1Timothy 2:11-14** “11 Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. 12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.”

- **Genesis 3:1-7** *“1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? 2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: 3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. 4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: 5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. 6 And when the woman saw that the 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. 7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.”*
- **Genesis 3:16-19** *“16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. 17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; 18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; 19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.”*
- Let's consider the elements of Eve's sin:
 - She was deceived. This is not merely a matter of trickery, as though her great sin was being a gullible simpleton. This deception played on pride and lust. Satan painted a picture that appealed to her desire to have something and be something that was not appointed for her.
 - She usurped the authority of her Father – God - as well as her husband, when she decided to follow Satan in redefining morality.
 - She wasn't content to stop with her own sin – she recruited Adam to it as well.
- With those elements in mind, consider the women who are leading this generation. They have completely departed from any standard of God and godliness; they have usurped the authority of their husbands, fathers, and God in daily redefining morality according to their own lust and pride – putting bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter – fully bought in to Satan's deceit. They have departed from their good office as mothers and wives to raise up a generation of wicked, lazy, selfish, gluttonous, violent, oppressive

brats. Rather than raising children to become sober and useful adults, they raise them to be bigger children. All the while, they mercilessly and violently recruit others to that same folly, like predatory harlots:

- **Proverbs 6:26** *“For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life.”*

- **What about the men?**

- Men have been commanded to rule their own houses well, in obedience to God; they are commanded to dwell with their wives according to knowledge and give honor unto them as unto the weaker vessel - so why is this passage silent about men? Because they have utterly failed in their duty, and have abrogated their duty to their wives and children. Jezebel could not have usurped Ahab’s authority except that he allowed it. Cowardly husbands and fathers are to blame for this mess.

As dark as this all seems, fear not, my friends: **Isaiah 51:4-8** *“4 Hearken unto me, my people; and give ear unto me, O my nation: for a law shall proceed from me, and I will make my judgment to rest for a light of the people. 5 My righteousness is near; my salvation is gone forth, and mine arms shall judge the people; the isles shall wait upon me, and on mine arm shall they trust. 6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment, and they that dwell therein shall die in like manner: but my salvation shall be for ever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished. 7 Hearken unto me, ye that know righteousness, the people in whose heart is my law; fear ye not the reproach of men, neither be ye afraid of their revilings. 8 For the moth shall eat them up like a garment, and the worm shall eat them like wool: but my righteousness shall be for ever, and my salvation from generation to generation.”*

With that backdrop of the destructive behavior of godless women, let us now move on to our text for today - 1Timothy chapter 2 - wherein we find wonderful and hopeful instructions for faithful women.

1Timothy 2:1-7 *“1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; 2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time. 7 Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not;) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity.”*

- There is a lot to unpack here, but I don't have time to do that today. Let's try to boil it down. This instruction first and foremost drives at a godly perspective. If we truly recognize what manner of sinful worms we are, then we will patiently endure all things, and continue to engage in preaching and prayer.
 - As gentiles who have been adopted into the household of God, we cannot be forgetful of the mercy that God showed in plucking us from gross darkness, and we must therefore continue to preach and pray with a hope for God to show that same mercy to others.
 - Regardless of the salvation of our leaders, we desire that the Lord bless them in their work, so that we can peacefully live our lives in service to God. **(Romans 13:1-6)**

1Timothy 2:8 *"I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting."*

- Paul sums up the first seven verses with this hearty instruction. Knowing where the hope of our salvation lies, we are to flee early and often to the mercy seat for deliverance, instruction, correction, repentance, renewing of our minds, etc. All men, all places, all circumstances – seek the Lord!
 - **Lifting up holy hands:** I used to stumble on this phrase as though it was prescriptive of how we were to literally posture our bodies while we pray. "Lifting up hands" is descriptive – Paul is simply referencing the fact of their method of prayer. His focus isn't on the method, but rather on the word "holy". The Greek word translated as "holy" in this verse is not the typical word that means "separate; sanctified unto God, etc.". The word only occurs 8 times, and the best I can tell it is pointing to purity. We are to approach God with clean, pure hands; consider the alternative:
 - **Ezekiel 23:37** *"37 That they have committed adultery, and blood is in their hands, and with their idols have they committed adultery, and have also caused their sons, whom they bare unto me, to pass for them through the fire, to devour them."*
 - When you combine this thought with the first 7 verses of the passage, I think you have this concept: Men are to walk soberly righteously and godly, and keep meekness and humility before our eyes as we encounter trials and afflictions, knowing that we have not earned favor – we have only earned punishment – our hands and hearts are filthy and corrupt, but for the righteousness of Christ clothed upon us, and the regenerating influence of the Holy Spirit; be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience (Titus 2); it is with that purity of heart, and cleanness of hands, that we are to approach the throne of God in prayer, lest we be found as hypocritical and self-

serving professors, and be rejected. This must be our continual posture, and we are to encourage each other to that sober and godly disposition.

- **Without wrath and doubting:** We are to war against these two sinful tendencies, day in and day out, not just when we are approaching the Lord in prayer. We must strive against the wrath that swells in us when we consider our own afflictions, or when we consider the temporary prosperity of the wicked. We are not justified to be filled with wrath, and we do great damage to ourselves, and our ability to seek true help from God when we prop up our wrath with swelling words of justification. Similarly, we must not doubt that our trials are for our good, or that God is able to deliver us in the perfect way, at the perfect time. We don't get to dictate the form or timing of deliverance, and must approach God as the Father that has lovingly designed every chastening that we endure in this flesh.

1Timothy 2:9,10 *“In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; 10 But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.”*

- **In like manner also:** The rest of this chapter switches focus from men to women, but it is clearly building upon what was already said regarding men. In other words, this sober, godly, patient, meek-hearted, prayerful work of the heart and hands is the baseline behavior that is required for those professing Christ – male or female. Anything else is contrary to our profession of faith.
- He adds here the idea that we must fight against the temptation to spend our time and energy conforming ourselves to the world and the trappings thereof. Cleanliness and appropriate attire are good things, but inordinate investment in gussying up and glorifying this rotting flesh is a bad way to go, and it is a distraction and hindrance to investing ourselves in good works. This is not a sin that is unique to women – men are certainly susceptible to it as well – but this verse makes clear that it is a particular danger for women. Modesty is a heart matter first and foremost, but if you don't show your modesty in your physical presentation, then it's not sincere. Let your example be one of good works, not of good looks.

1Timothy 2:11-15 *“11 Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. 12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. 15 Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.”*

She shall be saved in childbearing

- This is a strange turn of phrase that I have come back to often over the years. Over time, it has gone from a curious and mysterious thing to a powerful and hopeful exhortation. I don't think I can do justice to the depth of Paul's meaning here, but I hope to at least get you thinking in the right direction.
- Literal application to a mother:
 - Childbearing: This does not mean simply birthing a child; this incorporates every bit of physical, mental, and spiritual effort that is required to raise up a child from conception to adulthood, and beyond. This is a process that certainly contains joy, but also much sorrow. (**1Corinthians 7:28**)
 - Women have a role that is separate and distinct from men. It is useful, needful, and sufficient. The work of a godly wife and mother is spelled out beautifully in Proverbs 31. (sermons: 8/19/2018; 8/26/2018) Her continual and tireless work is to provide for the needs and guide the daily business of her house, training up her children in the Lord, and discharging her duty under the authority of her husband, and with such fidelity that his heart can safely trust in her.
 - **1Timothy 5:14** *"14 I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully."*
 - **Titus 2:3-5** *"3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; 4 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, 5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed."*
 - This is a painful, difficult, pride breaking work of submission. A faithful wife and mother is not about the business of pleasing herself. She is about the business of pleasing her husband (despite his sinfulness), and providing what is true and right for her children (despite their thrashing beneath the yoke). This is not Instagram life. This is a tall order, that requires patient dedication; it begins anew each day with a prayerful heart that desires first to please God, and seeks renewal from Him. It requires a heart that patiently rests in hope, and desires to do good, continuing in faith, charity and holiness with sobriety. Our hearts get tired, angry, jealous, resentful, etc., which causes us to look for new ways to find hope and peace. #Fail We reside under the curse of sin, which makes this whole process painful and sorrowful, and there will be no avoiding that reality while we reside in this corrupted flesh.

- **Genesis 3:16** *“16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.”*
 - This path of sorrow is what God has justly appointed; the sorrows of this life are only just the beginning of what we owe for our sins. BUT – we have hope in Christ! So we submit ourselves to this strait and narrow path that God has lovingly set before us, knowing that it leads to life!
 - The sin-tainted process of childbearing is literally the means by which 1) each of Christ’s little ones is brought into this world, and 2) Christ himself was brought into this world. The work of salvation was appointed to run through this physical process, which starts with the basics of a man leaving father and mother to cleave to his wife. And therein lies the horrific violence of the transgender movement.
 - **Malachi 2:14,15** *“14 Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. 15 And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.”*
 - **Psalms 127:3-5** *“3 Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. 4 As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. 5 Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.”*
- Application to every member of the church of Jesus Christ:
 - If you aren’t a wife or mother, then you might be wondering how this applies to you. The answer is simple: every bit of it applies directly to every one of us, because we are all a part of the Bride of Christ – His church – His body. We labor to please our husband. The work of “childbearing” within the church is to nurture and admonish the children of God that she brings forth. Each of us has that duty as a part of our ministering to one another. Those opportunities will look a little bit different for each of us based upon age, gender, experience, circumstance, etc., but the concept is the same for all of us. Once we have learned a thing we must put it into practice; with that experience we are to humbly teach it to others. Learn – do – teach. This is the continual work of the church, until each of Christ’s sheep are brought into His fold. (Great Commission sermon 5/7/17) It is a work that is focused on the good of others, not the good of my own self, or my own pride. Like the work of a mother, it is a patient work that is to be done with faith, charity

and holiness with sobriety, even when we encounter a child of God that is thrashing beneath the yoke, and opposing themselves. It is a work that requires us to be focused on fidelity to the standard of God, with a hope that God will teach the heart of His children, such that our instruction takes root and brings forth abundantly.

3John 1:4 *“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.”*

I love you all. Amen.