

Leaving a Godly Heritage

2 Tim 1:3-7

I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day,⁴ greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy,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.⁶ Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. NKJV

Mother's Day 2013. And another mother's day message. But there are very few subjects that are more vital to our nation.

Motherhood has fallen on hard times in our land. Motherhood never was an easy job but the social engineers have only made things worse.

Women have more freedoms than ever before. But in some cases it is not good but a tragedy. The Apostle Paul said, "For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another." Galatians 5:13

Liberty is only good if you use it for proper purposes. God has given us complete liberty. With that liberty some people destroy their lives and the lives of their families.

- I. Paul worshiped God as his forefathers had done.
 - A. Tradition of itself is not bad.
 - 1. I know that today many of our students come from college thinking that anything old is needs to be replaced by something new.
 - 2. It is sort of old fashion but we still wait for the sun to rise each day.
 - 3. It is sort of old fashion but we wait for the rain to water the crops.
 - 4. It is sort of old fashion is that babies still have to be born to get here.
 - B. Doing things God's way will never become old fashion.
 - 1. Man has never come up with a solution for sin.
 - 2. The Boston bombers did not have to have bad parents, be poor and oppressed and be social outcasts to do what they did. They were sinners deceived by Satan, estranged from the grace of God.
 - 3. Only God can change a person from a sinner to a saint.
 - 4. Only God can take the heart of stone and give a heart of flesh.
 - 5. Now that might be old fashion but it is still true.
 - C. Paul talks here about his forefathers because he is going to talk about Timothy's

spiritual heritage.

1. Everyone has a spiritual heritage, either good or bad; either beneficial or detrimental.
2. I thank God for the spiritual heritage of my grandmother, Amy Barton.
 - a. She left my family a great spiritual heritage.
 - b. Everyone knew what she stood for and no one questioned it or said she was old fashion, she was born in 1895.
 - c. As a young boy I can remember when grandma came into the house the women who were smoking went into a mad rush to put out those cigarettes.
 - d. None of the women smoked in her presence.
 - e. As a young preacher, I had the privilege to preach her funeral.
 - f. I preached about what was different about grandma.
 - g. Everyone knew it but most at that time did not understand it.
 - h. I understood, for the faith that was in that young preacher had dwelt in her as well.
 - i. The Lord answered her prayers, not all of them, for some of her dearest prayers were never answered.
 - j. You see we all get to pass on to the next generation a heritage.
 - k. No not in money or fame, but a spiritual heritage.
 - l. From my mother's things I know that my grandmother sent her to church camp as a young girl several times and I am sure that her brothers also went or could have went.
 - m. But it only takes one generation to destroy a heritage.
 - n. Sometimes a godly heritage can skip a generation but not often.

II. Timothy's heritage

- A. It was not full and complete.
 1. Timothy, it seems was raised by a gentile who never converted to the Jewish faith.
 2. Fathers have a lot of influence over their children.
 3. But we will talk about fathers next month.
- B. But Timothy did have a Godly grandmother, Lois

1. One thing sad about the Bible is that there are so many people that we know so little about.
 2. Only a few words are given us about them.
 3. Lois is one.
 - a. We do not even know the meaning of her name or its origin.
 - b. It has come to mean Christian lady because of this passage.
 - c. But notice Paul says she had a genuine, authentic faith.
 - d. Her's was real, not a Sunday morning faith, for you seen Timothy would have seen right through that.
 - e. Children are first to see right though the hypocrisy of a fake faith.
 4. We do not know how close Timothy was with her but he and Paul at least knew a lot about her.
 5. But it seems that she passed on her heritage to her daughter Eunice and her grand-son Timothy.
- C. He also had a Godly mother, Eunice.
1. In the Greek it is pronounced differently.
 - a. It is from two Greek words, EU and NIKE
 - b. Now there is a certain shoe company that has made the later part know world wide. Nike
 2. Nike of course means victorious in the Greek
 3. Eu means good or well.
 4. The name then means good victory.
 5. Pretty good name right.
 6. Her greatest victory was to pass on a Godly heritage to her son Timothy.