Transform

Magazine

May 2019 Volume 2 Issue 5

Proving what is that good, acceptable and perfect will of God /



REPROBATE MIND

They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate. *Titus 1:16*

This what the Word of God has to say about Reprobate.

They profess that they know God; but in works they deny *him*, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate. Titus 1:16

Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates? 2 Cor. 13:5

But I trust that ye shall know that we are not reprobates. 2 Cor. 13:6

Now I pray to God that ye do no evil; not that we should appear approved, but that ye should do that which is honest, though we be as reprobates. 2 Cor. 13:7

For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: Rom. 1:26

And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet. Rom. 1:27

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Publisher

Transformation

Dr. C.A. Dangerfield II inform@thetransformu.com

Feature Editors Department Editors/Writers

Ella Alexander - New York, NY ella.vlfm@gmail.com

Eunice A. Christian - Brooklyn, NY eunicec434@msn.com

Stacie Daniels - Columbus, OH <u>stalato@gmail.com</u>

Judith Allwood - Jacksonville, FL judith allwood@hotmail.com

Diane Harvell - Philadelphia, PA Dharvell215@gmail.com

Tony Martin - Detroit, MI <u>tonymartin@tds.net</u>

Carlton Johnson - Dallas, TX carlton7johnson@gmail.com

Advisory Board

Dr. Melvin L. Howard, Sr. Warren, Ohio Elder Calvin A. Scott Hampton Roads, VA Dr. Gerald L. Morgan Warren, Ohio Rose Marie Fisher-Dangerfield Hampton Roads, VA

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Thank you for your interest!

What is a Reprobate Mind?

Deliverance from a Reprobate Mind By Eunice A. Christian May 11, 2019

Philippians 2:1-4 New King James Version* (NKJV): ¹ Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, ² fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. ³ Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. ⁴ Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

* * *

Points of reference:

- Foreword
- A Reprobate Mind
- Holy Deliverance
- Mental Illness
- A Loving, Kind, Merciful God
- Stay Encouraged

FOREWORD

This month's theme is on the topic of *reprobate mind*. This topic is dreadful, to share the least; I believe, for those who know and believe what the future holds for those who possess a *reprobate mind*. A *reprobate* or a debased mind encompasses everything that a Child of God would not want to perceive in a person—or oneself.

I must also share that my article for this month contains many scriptures from the Holy Bible. It is not my style to have many quotations; however, because the Holy Word expresses the topic best—and there is no other interpretation that can do it better—supporting scriptures are in abundance.

A Reprobate Mind

What is a *reprobate mind*? A *reprobate mind* is a mindset that is subjected to immense condemnation. It is a mind set on matters and ideologies that are unworthy, unacceptable, or evil. It is a mindset that destines one to damnation; that is steadfast in concentrating upon and committing acts of abomination to oneself and against others. A reprobate mind refuses to believe he or she is a sinner. Furthermore, one who possesses a reprobate mind has an impenitent heart that keeps him or her from seeking God in spirit and in truth.

1 John 1:5-10 New King James Version (NKJV):

⁵ This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

To know God is to love God; it is to accept Him and His *Living* Word— Jesus. To the contrary, a person possessing a reprobate mind is one who demonstrates contempt towards God and does not glorify Him. It is a mindset that is incapable of respecting God's holiness, or lacks demonstrable cognitive attributes founded and premised upon what is good, right, and holy. Simply put, it is a person who rebels against God in the worse way—and that is to rebel against the Son of God, Jesus the Christ, and the ultimate sin, which is to reject the Holy Spirit.

Romans 1:16-25 New King James Version (NKJV):

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith." ¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them.²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, ²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. ²⁴ Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

Holy Deliverance

Only God has the power over spiritual life and spiritual death. He only knows whether one has the ability to recover from a reprobate mind. Irrespective of what we or man (generally used) may think or believe, it is God and God alone who knows truly and fully who is of His fold.

God, with His infinite and almighty power, mercy, and grace, can give one with the cruelest heart the ability to make a change while the blood is still yet running warm in one's veins. As it is written in the Book of Revelations, God gave Jezebel another chance to receive the gift of everlasting life who was perverse in their actions, if she only believed:

Revelations 2:18-22 New King James Version (NKJV):

¹⁸ "And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write,

'These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass:

¹⁹ "I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and *as* for your works, the last *are* more than the first. ²⁰ Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. ²¹ And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent. ²² Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds..."

Mental Illness

To take a sensitive shift, mental illness is a topic that has grown exponentially in the headlines and news today. It is being talked about more openly than ever before, not only by medical and licensed mental health professionals, but by celebrities, clergy, elected officials, and more. *Who can truly discern whether someone is suffering from mental illness from someone who is just plain cruel and wicked...do you believe there is a difference?* Although difficult to detect, I believe there is a difference. The mentally ill person does not choose to commit wrong; the cruel and wicked one knows he or she has a choice, chooses to commit wrong, and does not care. What is important is that we learn to combat both.

We, as Believers, have a choice when learning about someone who has a cognitive challenge that demonstrates undesirable characteristics. We, followers of Christ Jesus, must do more than pray; we have to learn to also act—with wisdom. We have to learn to become more sensitive to the unction of the Holy Spirit when we believe we are in the presence of someone who is reaching out for help, and to the converse, when someone wishes to do others harm. If it means taking up a mental health course, so be it. We will never have all the answers or solutions, but we can try to learn as much as possible within our means. Sometimes the closest person to another may not be the person who can get through; seek help. To add: If some of Jesus' disciples got it wrong when it came to combating someone who is ill, who are we? Whatever we do, let's continue to be guided by our Lord and our God, demonstrating His love.

Mark 9:38-41 New King James Version (NKJV): ³⁸ Now John answered Him, saying, "Teacher, we saw someone who does not follow us casting out demons in Your name, and we forbade him because he does not follow us." ³⁹ But Jesus said, "Do not forbid him, for no one who works a miracle in My name can soon afterward speak evil of Me. ⁴⁰ For he who is not against us is on our side. ⁴¹ For whoever gives you a cup of water to drink in My name, because you belong to Christ, assuredly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.

Mark 10:13-16 New Kings James Version (NKJV): ¹³ Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought *them.* ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw *it*, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. ¹⁵ Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." ¹⁶ And He took them up in His arms, laid *His* hands on them, and blessed them.

This one thing I know, and stand firm upon, that there is no help like the help of the Holy Ghost. As Believers, we should know that there is no greater path to peace than receiving Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior. We must use wisdom in all things. We know who holds the future; we know the author and finisher of our faith. We should not walk in fear, nor should we allow others to doubt the One who is able to keep our mind, body, and soul.

A Loving, Kind, Merciful God

Through it all, God remained with His chosen people; the Jews first, and then the Gentiles. Do you know anyone fathom how God could love people after worshipping false gods and committing acts of whoredom?

How can one be delivered from a reprobate mind? Deliverance is at hand! It has already been done, by the Blood of the Lamb:

Romans 8:1-8 New King James Version (NKJV): ¹*There is* therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God *did* by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to be carnally minded *is* death; but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace. ⁷ Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. ⁸ So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

To be delivered from a reprobate mind is to have accepted Jesus, the Christ, as Lord and Savior; under the power and unction of the Holy Spirit. There is no other way that is acceptable unto God the Father. Also, there is no way that God would call someone His chosen who cannot win the fight over the wicked one. To receive Jesus as Lord is to receive peace of mind, body, and soul.

To know that one does not have a reprobate mind is to believe their worship and walk is sincere before the Lord our God, which is demonstrated in not only by their willingness to hear the Holy Word, but by also doing what it requires. It is the demonstration of honoring and respecting the power of the Holy Ghost from within and without.

Ephesians 2 (*in its entirety*) **New King James Version (NKJV):** ¹ And you *He made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, ³ among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. ⁴ But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶ and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, ⁷ that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in *His* kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

¹¹ Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands— ¹² that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the

covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, ¹⁵ having abolished in His flesh the enmity, *that is,* the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man *from* the two, *thus* making peace, ¹⁶ and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. ¹⁷ And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner *stone*, ²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²² in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

* * *

Stay Encouraged

We cannot truly fathom how great our Lord and God is, but what we can identify with is our Lord and our God's mercies towards us. Knowing that there are recorded accounts of how Jesus walked this earth—and knowing how He lived and died for us—should cause us to serve Him with an abundance of gratitude and humility. We know that we could never repay Him for what He has done, and continues to do for us, by the power of the Holy Spirit—we know this—but the way we can honor Him is to love and obey Him.

We should, therefore, be willing to spread the gospel so that the Holy Word may be received by all who will believe—and for those who truly believe, may we rejoice together, and be continually encouraged in knowing that we have a glorious expected end in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 2:14-16 New King James Version (NKJV): ¹⁴ Do all things without complaining and disputing, ¹⁵ that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

* * *

There is no greater gift than the power of God's redemption.

So, if you've have not done so already, give your heart to Jesus while you still have time.

Have a transformed mind, look to Jesus.

Be blessed and be a blessing.

*All biblical references are from the New Kings James Version (NKJV) - Public Domain.

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"WHAT IS A REPROBATE MINDSET AND HOW CAN WE BE DELIVERED FROM IT"

By Elder Diane Harvell

It's not a particular sin that makes one reprobate, but it's the awareness of the righteousness of God, yet one continues to live contrary to and in opposition to the will of God.

At this point, the heart and the mindset are already reprobate, and because of this, God totally turns the heart over to whatever the heart desires, because it refuses to acknowledge Him as God, and refuse to be obedient to His will. Listen, the word of God says in **Romans 1:28~And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;** So, God will allow a person to be consumed in their own conditions and will allow a person to be consumed within their own lusts (sin) and allow them to believe that the unrighteous things they continue to do are alright because "**they did not like to retain God in** *their* **knowledge.**"

Since the word "reprobate" always seem to be associated with homosexuality, and with the familiar scripture text about Sodom and Gomorrah, Genesis 19:1-25, let's take a critical look at the text.

Before the destruction of Sodom, all the men young and old, pressed upon Lot's door for him to open his door so that they could "know" the ANGELS OF GOD who were there inside Lot's house to save him & his family, before God destroyed the city. Disgusting right? But what is more appalling is that the city was soon to be destroyed and these men knew these Angels sent to earth from God to save a righteous man and his family! But they were filled with indignation because they said this man (Lot) is an outsider, and now he's trying to judge us? And they threatened to do worse to Lot than to the Angels! And so, they didn't stop at Lot's door nor did they stop at the righteousness of God, but they insisted on having what they wanted and do what they wanted to do. Nothing else mattered to them despite being at the brink of death and destruction! So, the scripture says God (the Angels) blinded them so that they couldn't find the door!. That BLINDNESS still exists unto this day!!!

That's what "reprobate" is! Those who are reprobate are blinded by Satan and have lost their way to the doors of salvation because they refuse to retain God in their knowledge!

And unfortunately, we are seeing it more and more today in the world as well as in our churches! Because the world has adopted a carefree mentality, I believe in what I want, I do what I want, and with whom I want. Many people today have been blinded to the importance of the acknowledgment of a Holy God and they are blinded to the awareness of a righteousness God, and they are blind to the will of God. People are also blind to the god of this world and do not realize that he, the god of this world, will eventually kill them. This is the mind of a reprobate, the mind of the BLIND!

That's what sin does! It blinds. It craves the opposite of God's will and seeks after its own lust, thus, Satan's way of destruction to kill, steal or to destroy God's purpose and destiny.

Also, note, there were two other cities destroyed this day by God. And these cities weren't destroyed only because of homosexual activity. They were also destroyed because of sin, MEN AND WOMEN who refused to retain God in their knowledge even though God had placed Godly men in their midst, (Abraham and Lot), but they ignored God and these righteous men, and did whatever it was they wanted to do so God destroyed these unrighteous cities. **"Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven; And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground!"** Had there been at least 10 righteous souls in the city of Sodom, God would not have destroyed the entire city i.e. Genesis 18:32-33.

It's clear to me that Satan uses the same line, but different time and many are deceived today just as Eve was in the garden. "I can do or be whatever I want and with whomever I want, and no one can stop me." This is the mentality of the world today. This is a dangerous set path of destruction, yet it's the same line, different time but *some* are still blind to it.

ALL unrighteousness is sin, no matter what it is. Homosexuality is sin, being effeminate is sin, drinking in excess is sin, holding an aught against your brother is sin, adultery is sin, fornication is sin, lying is sin, stealing is sin, to lust is sin, unforgiveness is sin, backbiting and gossip is sin, !!!

And because we all have come short of God's glory in one of these offenses or another, when it is made known unto us that we need a Risen Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ, to cleanse us from all unrighteousness it's up to us the collective or the individual to accept the Lord and His mercies when He appeals to us. Then we as a people of God can be a witness by the love of God we have in our hearts and by the way we live our lives, and then we can impact this dying world that salvation has come to me, a sinner Lest, BLINDNESS should overtake us, and we all die and be lost!!



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BEWARE! DON'T CROSS THAT LINE

Evang. Ella J. Alexander

Often times when we think of crossing a line it denotes something positive. It is when we don't cross the line that we see incompleteness or failure. A line could also indicate a limit or barrier to protect someone from something or to train a person about boundaries. This month I am writing from a different view. This is view is about not crossing *that* line. A line that one should never cross. This month we are dealing with THE REPROBATE MIND.

What is a reprobate mind and what does it mean to have a reprobate mind. Let us first examine the word. The word reprobate is defined as 1) an unprincipled person 2) a sinner who is not of the elect and is predestined to damnation. The Greek word in the New Testament adokimos is translated to "reprobate", which means literally "unapproved, that is, rejected; by implication, worthless (literally or morally)." A reprobate mind is one that have not chosen or yielded themselves to the Holy Ghost to be transformed. One that have chosen not to follow the laws of God. One stuck in his/her own way of thought and lifestyle. A reprobate mind is NOT acceptable to God and will never be. It is similar to being a selfish rebel who does what they want and doesn't respect or honor laws.

In our life we have experiences with rules and regulations. We have experiences with many different laws, whether it was at home, on the job, in school or relationship. There are many laws that were put in place and have been broken which resulted in consequences. Let's look at the traffic light system. Green gives us permission to go, yellow warns us to slow down and prepare to come to a stop, while red tells us to come to a complete stop. While we yet see and understand the lights there are lines on the road (street) which tells us where to stop at. If we pass those lines we could get in trouble. Let's look at the solid line and the broken line. The broken line allows us to switch lanes while the solid line prohibits us from doing so. If we switch lanes while the lines are both solid, we could end up with a ticket or fine if we are caught doing so.

When a person have come to the place of having a reprobate mind that means that they have crossed that line. That line is a warning to us all that the law of God is TRUE and there is no failure. The WORD of GOD is absolute. When a person begins to reject the truth of God and start twisting it to fit their own situation just to remain how they are and in the place they are that is the beginning of the path to a reprobate mind.

Not only are we tempted to go a path that leads us away from God, but that path allows us to choose something that goes against the word of God. When the word of God says "put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful

lusts; "(Eph. 4:22) it meant for us to change, to let go, no longer take heed to or desire. The old man has deceitful lusts that lead us in our own ways according to the desires of the flesh. DISOBEDIENCE to God is one of those lusts. Ephesians goes on in the next verse (23) and says, "And be renewed in the spirit of your mind." We must learn to take heed to the leading and guiding of the Holy Spirit. Every word that He (the Holy Spirit) spoke and will speak. Everything that He reveals and bring us to understand; know that it is a must that we follow His lead. We cannot hold to the things of the flesh. We must crucify the affections of the flesh (Gal. 5:24-26) and bring it under subjection through denying it to have its way (2 Cor. 10:5). When we deny the flesh it keeps us from heeding and crossing that line that is prohibited by God, himself.

We can't give place or room to the devil to come steal or manipulate to cross a line that in return will leave us in a state that is worse than the first. If we choose to cross that line, then we can become somewhat like the church of Laodicea. They were doubleminded, slothful, they didn't choose wisely. They chose the wrong thing. This is what God said about that church:

"I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest thou that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:"(Rev. 3:15-17)

Having a reprobate mind is like a child of the Laodicea church. Although God told them that He would spue them out, Peter stated in 2 Pet 3:9, "*The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*" If we end up in that state of having a reprobate mind, God still requires repentance because we crossed a line that we shouldn't have. God is still merciful towards us. Yes, GOD gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient because they didn't keep the KNOWLEDGE OF GOD (which is the TRUTH) and that doesn't mean that He does not love the soul. He wants to save those who crossed that line and yet, protect those who are headed towards that line. God always sends a warning before destruction.

A person with a reprobate mind will have God to say: "Depart from me, ye, all ye workers of iniquity." (Luke 13:27)

I beg of you to keep GOD and the knowledge of GOD in your heart. Obey his voice and His commandments. Don't look at who is not doing what is right. Make sure that you don't cross that line and end up being spued out of the mouth of God and left to your own desires and lusts of the flesh to do what you want, when you want, and how you want. Don't choose your own desires over the love of God. Remember, God loved you so much that not only did He send His son to die for you but Jesus was and still is our only perfect example of living this life acceptable to God. So BEWARE, Don't Cross That Line . Understand that crossing *THAT* Line will leave us with a reprobate mind.

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Special Tribute Section for

Mother's Day!



MOTHERS VIRTUE

Dr. C.A. Dangerfield II



This is the month that we recognize Mothers and celebrate Mother's Day. For me, it is a significant holiday to recognize all the attributes provided by strong Mothers. So what are some of these strong attributes? Well Mothers are seen as nurturers, teachers, guidance counselors, cheerleaders and encouragers just to name a few. The greatest attributes of a Mother is her strength to respond to life situations. She has been blessed with the ability to adapt to her surroundings in many forms. God has also blessed her to gather strength from within. Whenever we are in trouble it seems that one of the first safest places we seek to find is ones Mother. When we are not calling on Jesus we are calling on our Mother. And it seems no matter how mad we make her, her maternal instincts jump in and she starts to nurture, no matter what our ages are. Her tolerance level towards her children is greater than anyone will understand because her love will cover a multitude of our sins. She will give her last for the comfort of her children which at times may seem to go unnoticed by them.

No matter what type of a person she was prior to motherhood, this new responsibility will eventually change her character and mature her in many different ways. For some it takes longer than others but it will catch up to her.

When I stop to think about my own Mother it amazes me of her strength and adaptability that has defined her character and morals, which also shape mine as well in life. Seeing that she never quits, yet keeps on fighting through what life may choose to throw at her, she still comes out on top. Common sense tells me that she has had some fears as well as tears, but witnessing her faith in God has enabled her to conquer obstacles and has ministered and taught me also. In saying this it reminds me of a poem by an unknown author entitled Why Women Cry:

I have acquired that same love for God and believeth in Jesus Christ because I have seen him working in her life. He is one of the greatest attributes you can introduce into

Why Women Cry

A little boy asked his mother, "Why are you crying?" "Because I'm a woman," she told him. "I don't understand," he said. His Mom just hugged him and said, "And you never will." Later the little boy asked his father, "Why does mother seem to cry for no reason?" "All women cry for no reason," was all his dad could say. The little boy grew up and became a man, still wondering why women cry. Finally he put in a call to God. When God got on the phone, he asked, "God, why do women cry so easily?"

God said, "When I made the woman she had to be special.

I made her shoulders strong enough to carry the weight of the world,

yet gentle enough to give comfort.

I gave her an inner strength to endure childbirth and the rejection that many times comes from her children.

I gave her a hardness that allows her to keep going when everyone else gives up, and take care of her family through sickness and fatigue without complaining.

I gave her the sensitivity to love her children under any and all circumstances, even when her child has hurt her very badly.

I gave her strength to carry her husband through his faults and fashioned her from his rib to protect his heart.

I gave her wisdom to know that a good husband never hurts his wife, but sometimes tests her strengths and her resolve to stand beside him unfalteringly.

And finally, I gave her a tear to shed. This is hers exclusively to use whenever it is needed." "You see my son," said God, "the beauty of a woman is not in the clothes she wears, the figure that she

carries, or the way she combs her hair.

The beauty of a woman must be seen in her eyes, because that is the doorway to her heart - the place where love resides."

Author: Unknown

the life of a child in this world that we live in that we will not be consumed. I thank my Mother for this committed part of her life, one in which I chose also to partake in. My Mother chose to better herself by working, attending and completing college with two children, this taught me determination as well as long suffering. Through my formative years she was teaching me all of lifes. values and how to be innovated . To honor her for this I chose to follow the same path of hard work and determination, not seeking un-honorable short cuts because truly there are none. I never had to be a child who had to wonder where there mother was or what she was doing. To this day I know she can always be found in the house of the Lord giving praise unto her first love. How many children can give a report like that?

On this day and everyday we should honor and reflect on the sacrifices made by our Mother's. Even though God intended it to be a family unit. For those who had to walk it alone or those blessed to still be in a unit of unity. Celebrate the virtue of your Mother because she is one of a kind uniquely made by God a true diamond in a very rough world. I will always love my Mother! Love yours too!



NXIETY AS A URE

6

10

Judith Allwood



"... Do not worry or be anxious (perpetually uneasy, distracted), saying, 'What are we going to eat?' or 'What are we going to drink?' or 'What are we going to wear?' For the [pagan] Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; [but do not worry,] for your heavenly Father knows that you need them." Matthew 6:31-34 Amplified Bible

Really? Do you mean to say I do not need to allow my mind to dwell on making provisions for the basic necessities of life? I can't just chill and expect that a place for me and my family to live (shelter), or food, or medical care will just show up. And Lord knows I need a hairdo! What's Jesus really talking about - "do not worry?"

You and I have been cultured to making a living be our priority. Our parents impressed upon us to get an education so that we could hold down a job or operate a business so we could have all those things Jesus mentioned and when we don't have them or when they're threatened we get anxious because we fear homelessness and hunger. It's simply part of the human condition, that's why Jesus said, "Your Heavenly Father knows that you need them." (Read that part again)

Every responsible and resourceful mother (or father), knowing their child's needs and wants find ways to ensure they're taken care of. The child therefore has no concern about how rent, school fee or grocery bills will be paid; she simply exists in the knowing that when she gets hungry there is food and all she needs to do is ask for it.

That is why Jesus says we need to have the faith of a little child. Paul said, "But my God shall abundantly supply all your need according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19 Darby Translation. God is that resourceful and responsible parent.

I'd like to share something from a devotional I read today:

"When the people of Israel were in the desert on the way to the Promised Land, God gave them manna to eat. That was good. It sustained them for a while, but it wasn't permanent provision...Eventually, the manna stopped coming. The people had to move forward, and then God gave them quail. They were so excited. That fed them for a while, but it was also temporary. See, God gave the Israelites temporary provision on the way to the Promised Land where they would have permanent provision. God could have sustained them with manna or quail, [but He had an even greater plan]."

Even though God gave us the obligation to "be fruitful and multiply" as we read in Genesis 1 that is secondary to His mandate to seek first the kingdom of God and all His righteousness and all these things - food, clothing, shelter and yes, money for your fabulous 'do', will be given. Just know that it is there, and ask for it. Then believe that you have received it. Get to truly know God, the Heavenly Father and you will see that He is real and He is not lying.

If you are a parent, you must know how upsetting it can be for your child to beg from the neighbors; and that's what we do when we ease God out and look to ourselves for provision. And how miserably we fail at it too, bringing on to ourselves all the effects of anxiety - high blood pressure, depression, arthritis, cancer, obesity, substance abuse, and the list goes on.

It is hard to "only trust Him" as we sing from our hymnals, but that's ultimately what God wants us to do. Allow Him to be the Loving, Provident Heavenly Father that He is. Tell Him multiple times a day that you want to get to know who He is so that you can put your faith in Him in every aspect of your life. He is interested in you and in building a rock solid relationship with you so that you will need to have no other god besides Him. Then the peace which transcends human understanding will keep your heart and mind free from anxiety.

We would like to hear from you.

If we have been a blessing to you, we would like to hear from you. If there is any subject matter you may desire that we explore let us know. And if there is any further information which we can follow up with, from an article you have read feel free to reach out to us.



Coming Mid-June

JUNE Issue

Well done, thou good and

faithful servant

Min. Mark Dudley

Those words sum up the life of my mother, Mable Spann Dudley.

Born June 3, 1936 in Cross, S.C, she was one of eleven children born to McKinley Spann and Loverta Prioleau, my grandparents.

At an early age, she accepted Jesus Christ as her savior, and was a member of Jehovah, A.M.E church, where she served faithfully, until she moved to Philadelphia, Pa, and then to New York City.

The move to New York did not in any way stop my mother from serving in the church. She was a member of Willis Avenue United Methodist Church, and she served as an usher.

For over twenty years, my mother worked as C.N.A at the Park Crescent Nursing Home located in Manhattan, NY. All the while she was raising four children, my sister Lorretta, my two brothers Michael, Randy, and me.

Upon, her retirement, she returned to her hometown of Cross, S.C and rejoined Jehovah A.M.E, and served as a member of the choir, the prayer group, the health ministry, and the Missionary Society. In 2013, she received "Mother of the Year" from the church, and I had the honor of purchasing a gold necklace for her to show how much I love her.

Mom was faithful to the Lord, to her church, but what stands out about my mom is her undying love for her children. No, we were not perfect children in any sense of the word, but Mom loved us in her own way.

I will always remember every Sunday at 9:00pm, I would make my utmost duty to talk to my mom, and those were special times for us.

Now, my mom is at rest, her work here on earth is done. It's my earnest prayer that I can be just as faithful to the Lord and my children as my mother was.

At my mother's Home-going service, my older brother Randy sang the song "I will always love my momma, she's my baby girl, I will always love my momma, she brought me in this world".

Mable Spann Dudley, good and Faithful Servant



SUNDAYS @ 10:30 AM

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TO OBEY. HAVE YOU HEARD HIS VOICE?

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"THE MOTHER OF MOTHER'S DAY"

By Elder Diane Harvell

Mother's Day was established by Anna Jarvis and was first celebrated in 1908, when she held a memorial for her mother at St. Andrew's Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia. She campaigned to make Mother's Day a national holiday in 1905 in the United States when her mother Ann Reeves Jarvis died. Her mother had been a peace activist who cared for wounded soldiers on both sides of the American Civil War and she created Mother's Day Work Clubs to address public health issues.

Anna Jarvis wanted to honor her mother by continuing her work. It was in 1914 Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating Mother's Day a national holiday on the second Sunday of May to honor all Mothers.

Although Anna advocated for this honor of her mother, later she tried to have the holiday rescinded because she believed it became too "commercialized." Even down to the white carnation which she believed was symbolic of "truth, purity and charity of a mother's love, its fragrance, her memory, and her prayers. The carnation does not drop its petals, but hugs them to its heart as it dies, and so, too, mothers hug their children to their hearts. Mother's love never dies."

She believed the carnation was "painted" or colors were added to it which she also believed changed the meaning of its existence. She also thought that the *Hallmark Company* manufactured keepsake cards which today are now a sentimental staple in our lives should have been replaced by heartfelt handwritten cards from one's heart written by a son or daughter directly to Mother.

Anna Jarvis' unprecedented passion for the love of Mother only God could manifest within her heart. Although she felt she was only advocating for the deeds of service her mother rendered for the "wounded" yet I believe it was God who motivated her to do this, thus creating a time to set aside to sanctify the acknowledgement of All Mothers. Whether Anna knew it or not God used her to bring awareness for a time to reflect and appreciate the existence, of our Mother's love which taught us, a Mother's love doesn't "drop her children and a Mother's love never dies."

Whether in advertencement or in concealment, Anna was used by God to implement the fulfillment of scripture by acknowledging her Mother which in fact affects us all wherein;

Proverbs 1:8 says: My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother: Proverbs 22:6 says: Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Ms. Jarvis meant to establish one thing but inadvertently established the fulfillment of scripture from generation to generation. Ironically, she had no children at all yet she knew how to honor Mother. My mother's name was Barbara and my grandmother's name was Mable. Like the Jarvis women they are resting in the Lord. This Mother's day I will wear three white carnations, one for my Mother, one for my Grandmother and one for Anna Jarvis, the Mother of Mother's Day.

Join Apostle Carlton & Prophetess Tonya

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"Jesus is Lord" - Romans 10:9

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Evangelist Stacie Daniels



The value of a mother is far beyond measure. This was demonstrated over thousands of years ago when the necessity of a mother was displayed as God chose the virgin Mary to bear and birth the Messiah into the world. God is supernatural and He could have designed it another way but instead He chose Mary to be an earthly mother of His only begotten Son.

Being a mother is one of the greatest joys and blessings in the world. A mother knows firsthand the meaning of sacrifice, giving, caring, nurturing and love. A mother is resilient and she will give of herself and her possessions to her children, even if it means she will be depleted. From enduring contractions, labor pain, diaper changes, bottle feedings, and being up late when the child is sick...a mother is the epitome of strength.

I am grateful that I was blessed and favored to have a mother who embraced biblical teachings and values and imparted them to her children. She has always shown unconditional love, patience and care for all her children. There are many fond memories that I hold near and dear when I think about my mother and I am grateful to share another Mother's Day this year with her. I once read a quote that said, *"No gift to your mother can ever equal her gift to you* - life" (Anonymous author).

It is so important to cherish our loved ones and choose to love and forgive. The following poem that I am sharing in this article is a tribute to my mother and every mother as we celebrate Mother's Day in the month of May.

A Mother Is a Blessing (Author Unknown)

Blessed is the mother who follows the Lord, so her children can learn and grow...The unselfish Mother who holds on with love, yet knows when it's time to let go...

Blessed is the Mother whose patient, forgiving, the one who cannot bear a grudge, the one that accepts people just as they are, without stopping to question or judge.

Blessed is the Mother whose faith keeps her going through traumas, trials and cares, who handles the easy with wisdom and love and the not-so-easy... with prayers.

Blessed is the Mother who meets all your needs from the very first day of your birth. Blessed is the Mother, who shares so much love, for she's GOD's special angel on earth.



Behind Every Good Husband There Is His Great Wife!

Minister Norman Roach

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The Hat represents Authority & Power



By Evangelist Ella J. Alexander

As I thought about this month's theme and because it is centered around Mother's I had to take into consideration that I can't do what can't be done. I will always try to stand in the position and tell the truth. So I decided to do what was right and in my spirit.

From my teen years up until my current years, I have experienced so much. During my life I have had the good, the bad, and the ugly. But God has blessed me in a very special way with a very special person. I could say so much and it would be the truth.

I want to take this time to tell you about someone special in my life. I have found a best friend, a wonderful sister and someone I could confide in. This person lends me her shoulder, I could text her anytime and get a response. I could tell her my deepest problems, mess ups, and desires and I won't hear them ever again. I don't get ill treatment, but because she loves me like she does chastisement is necessary and it is well with me. She is a wonderful person with a loving personality. She is playful and loves to laugh. She is a great role model and a teacher. I wouldn't trade her in for anything in this world.

To my spiritual Mom and adoptive natural mom, Prophetess Jeanette Williams, I just wanted you to know that you are not just my leader, my Pastor but you are so much more to me that words can't describe. God brought you in my life at the right time and I couldn't thank Him enough. During this short time that you have taken me under your wing, it has been a pleasure and a journey that I would not want to miss. You have demonstrated the wife side as a Woman of God. How we ought to carry myself; act, as well as speak. You are a friend that shows love and compassion, sympathy and empathy, but most of all you have shown me how to walk in the spirit and pray on a level I have never known. You are a great blessing to me during this time in my walk with God and I wouldn't take it for granted. I need you to know that I love you and appreciate you, not for just being my friend and sister, but being a Mother to me that really loves me and sees the best in me.

May God always bless you and keep you.

Love your daughter, Evangelist Ella.



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