



MOTHERS OF FAITH

Three Women to Follow

Sarah, Hannah, Mary

May 8, 2022

Psalm 127 ³ Children are God's love-gift; they are heaven's generous reward. ⁴ Children born to a young couple will one day rise to protect and provide for their parents. ⁵ Happy will be the couple who has many of them... TPT

Proverbs 13 ¹² When hope's dream seems to drag on and on, the delay can be depressing. But when at last your dream comes true, life's sweetness will satisfy your soul. TPT

Hebrews 6 ¹² So don't allow your hearts to grow dull or lose your enthusiasm, but follow the example of those who fully received what God has promised because of their strong faith and patient endurance. TPT

What has been the result when you have tried to manipulate the situation to try to fulfill God's promise? What has been the result when you have patiently waited upon Him?

Sarah

Genesis 17 ¹⁵ Then God said to Abraham, "Regarding Sarai, your wife—her name will no longer be Sarai. From now on her name will be Sarah. ¹⁶ And I will bless her and give you a son from her! Yes, I will bless her richly, and she will become the mother of many nations. Kings of nations will be among her descendants." ¹⁷ Then Abraham bowed down to the ground, but he laughed to himself in disbelief. "How could I become a father at the age of 100?" he thought. "And how can Sarah have a baby when she is ninety years old?" ¹⁸ So Abraham said to God, "May Ishmael live under your special blessing!" ¹⁹ But God replied, "No—Sarah, your wife, will give birth to a son for you. You will name him Isaac, and I will confirm my covenant with him and his descendants as an everlasting covenant." NLT

Genesis 18 ⁹ They asked him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" He answered, "Over there—in the tent." ¹⁰ Then one spoke up and said, "I will return about this time next year, when your wife Sarah will certainly have a son." Sarah overheard it, for she was at the tent door not far behind him. ¹¹ Now, both Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. ¹² Sarah laughed to herself with disbelief, saying "A woman my age - have a baby? After I'm worn out will I now enjoy marital bliss and conceive - and with my aged husband?" ¹³ Yahweh knew her thoughts and asked Abraham, "Why is Sarah laughing, saying, 'How can a woman my age have a baby?'" ¹⁴ Do you think there is anything too marvelous for Yahweh? I will appear to you at the appointed time next year and Sarah will have a son!" ¹⁵ Sarah was afraid, so she denied it, saying, "I wasn't laughing." But he said, "Yes, you were!" TPT

Hebrews 11 ¹¹ Sarah's faith embraced God's miracle power to conceive even though she was barren and was past the age of childbearing, for the authority of her faith rested in the One who made the promise, and she tapped into his faithfulness. TPT

1 Peter 3 ⁶ For example, our "mother," Sarah, devoted herself to her husband, Abraham, and even called him "master." And you have become her daughters when you do what is right without fear and intimidation. ⁷ Husbands, you in turn must treat your wives with tenderness, viewing them as feminine partners who deserve to be honored, for they are co-heirs with you of the "divine grace of life," so that nothing will hinder your prayers. TPT

Hannah

1 Samuel 1 ² Elkanah had two wives, Hannah and Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah did not. ⁶ So Peninnah would taunt Hannah and make fun of her because the LORD had kept her from having children. ^{7b} ...Hannah would be reduced to tears and would not even eat. ¹⁰ Hannah was in deep anguish, crying bitterly as she prayed to the LORD. ¹¹ And she made this vow: "O Lord of Heaven's Armies, if you will look upon my sorrow and answer my prayer and give me a son, then I will give him back to you. ¹⁵ ..."I haven't been drinking wine or anything stronger. But I am very discouraged, and I was pouring out my heart to the LORD. ^{16b} ...I have been praying out of great anguish and sorrow." ¹⁷ "In that case," Eli said, "go in peace! May the God of Israel grant the request you have asked of him." ¹⁸ "Oh, thank you, sir!" she exclaimed. Then she went back and began to eat again, and she was no longer sad. ²⁰ and in due time she gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, "I asked the LORD for him." ²⁷ I asked the LORD to give me this boy, and he has granted my request. ^{28a} Now I am giving him to the LORD, and he will belong to the LORD his whole life." ...
1 Samuel 2 ²¹ And the LORD blessed Hannah, and she conceived and gave birth to three sons and two daughters. Meanwhile, Samuel grew up in the presence of the LORD. ²⁶ Meanwhile, the boy Samuel grew taller and grew in favor with the LORD and with the people. NLT

Romans 8 ²⁶ And in a similar way, the Holy Spirit takes hold of us in our human frailty to empower us in our weakness. For example, at times we don't even know how to pray, or know the best things to ask for. But the Holy Spirit rises up within us to super-intercede on our behalf, pleading to God with emotional sighs too deep for words. ²⁷ God, the searcher of the heart, knows fully our longings, yet he also understands the desires of the Spirit, because the Holy Spirit passionately pleads before God for us, his holy ones, in perfect harmony with God's plan and our destiny. TPT

Mary

Luke 1 ²⁶⁻²⁷ During the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, the angel Gabriel was sent from God's presence to an unmarried girl named Mary, living in Nazareth, a village in Galilee. She was engaged to a man named Joseph, a true descendant of King David. ²⁸ Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Rejoice, beloved young woman, for the Lord is with you and you are anointed with great favor." ²⁹ Mary was deeply troubled over the words of the angel and bewildered over what this may mean for her. ³⁰ But the angel reassured her, saying, "Do not yield to your fear, Mary, for the Lord has found delight in you and has chosen to surprise you with a wonderful gift." ³¹ You will become pregnant with a baby boy, and you are to name him Jesus. ³² He will be supreme and will be known as the Son of the Highest. And the Lord God will enthrone him as King on the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign as King of Israel forever, and his reign will have no limit." ³⁴ Mary said, "But how could this happen? I am still a virgin!" ³⁵ Gabriel answered, "The Spirit of Holiness will fall upon you and almighty God will spread his shadow of power over you in a cloud of glory! This is why the child born to you will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ What's more, your aged aunt, Elizabeth, has also become pregnant with a son. The 'barren one' is now in her sixth month. ³⁷ Not one promise from God is empty of power. Nothing is impossible with God!" ³⁸ Then Mary responded, saying, "Yes! I will be a mother for the Lord! As his servant, I accept whatever he has for me. May everything you have told me come to pass." And the angel left her. ⁴⁵ Great favor rests upon you, for you have believed every word spoken to you from the Lord." ⁵⁴ Because he can never forget to show mercy, he has helped his chosen servant, Israel, ⁵⁵ keeping his promises to Abraham and to his descendants forever." TPT

Ephesians 5 ³² Marriage is the beautiful design of the Almighty, a great mystery of Christ and his church. ^{6:2} For the commandment, "Honor your father and your mother," was the first of the *Ten Commandments* with a promise attached: ³ "You will prosper and live a long, full life if you honor your parents." TPT