

57 February 19, 2022, Woman's Intercession

Many men fail to consider the importance of a woman or a wife in their decision making as head of a family or maybe even as in a corporate setting. I learned the hard way and took a 180 degree turn when I married a Christian woman in 1976 who reversed my course to become a Christian and follower of Jesus the Christ. The change does not occur immediately but across time and many years of "growing up" there is a recognition of the wisdom that a woman has. A powerful scripture of guidance for men and women is Eph 5:33, *"let each individual among you also love his own wife even as himself; and let the wife see to it that she respect her husband"*. This intrigues me as it should you if you love a woman in your life. Two examples of women that demonstrates their principles of, love, and love beyond themselves into others is given as follows:

John Paul Getty the richest man in history at the midpoint of the 1950's had thirteen great-grandchildren but fathered only one son to carry on his legacy. John Paul became wealthy by developing the rich oil fields of the Middle Eastern Arabs and scrounging his wealth with tactics such as not paying taxes by putting his profits into owning worldly artifacts instead. This son could not live up to his father's expectations and became an addict for drugs and alcohol. The son had married a woman, thus the daughter-in-law of John Paul, who loved her children. She accepted the rejection of John Paul because of his rejection of his son and lived within extreme poor financial circumstances with no help from John Paul. Her husband reached a point of being unable to provide for his family due to his addictions. They approached John Paul for assistance wherein he required complete subjugation to him of all of the family. The son consented but his wife would not give up her children for living the life of the wealthy. However, John Paul did take to his grandson John Paul III and taught him many traits and lifestyles about the rich and fortunate and of course the boy became a celebrity at the age of 17-18. The mother saw what was happening in exploiting her son and demanded his return to her which ended any assistance from John Paul.

The grandson, John Paul III was abducted in Italy by third-world ransom seekers who demanded 17 million dollars in ransom to return the boy safe with no harm. John Paul refused but did provide his chief security officer to act as negotiator between the mother and them since they demanded to only deal with the mother. The mother had no money, the father was even worse an addict and had no access to money, and John Paul refused to give up any of his wealth. Many months went by with negotiations reducing the demand to 4 million dollars. An insider of the kidnappers who had taken a liking to the boy was the intermediary for the negotiations. Finally, the ruthless kidnappers lost patience with the negotiation and cut off an ear of John Paul III and mailed it to the FBI as proof of their intentions to further extract feet and death if they did not get their demands. John Paul agreed to provide the mother one million dollars which he could write off on his taxes, but she would have to raise the other 3 million dollars. With the help of her negotiator the mother and he agreed to lie to the press that they had the 4 million dollars and set up a circuitous meet point to turn over the cash as a last result to get her son back. With the involvement of the FBI and local police the boy was retrieved with no other harm, the kidnappers were killed or captured, and John Paul had died among his wealth. This mother changed the course of history for her son.

Another example of a woman who changed history is Abigail of the Bible in 1 Samuel 25:18-44 at a time after the prophet Samuel had died, Saul was the ruler over Israel, and David was living in the forests and caves as he avoided Saul and his intent to harm him as he was in disfavor to Saul. Many of the young

warriors who followed David were still entrusted as servants to work and did work, for the wealthy landowners to fulfill their commitments to their benefactors. Nadal who was married with Abigail and was one of those wealthy landowners who had many sheep that had required many servants to care for them and provide shearing and slaughter at the appropriate times. David sent some of his young warriors to Nadal to obtain help with food and accessories for his small army of about 400 warriors. Nadal refused but Abigail his wife heard the request and had her servants to load many donkeys with provisions to take to David. On her way she intercepted David and his army and stopped him from unleashing his anger on Nadal. Afterward Abigail admitted to Nadal that she had helped David, contradicting Nadal, who soon after fell over dead. Shortly after Abigail became a wife of David, and King David became the lineage to Jesus our savior.

Women have so much to offer to men as most are the direct opposite of men having emotions that allow them to better understand others wherein men are often blinded to look at circumstances and obstacles as a requirement to conquer toward their goals rather than rationalize a need to understand before proceeding. Thank God for women and helpmates plus they provide propagation to maintain the furtherance of the world's population. Shame on many of the Nations of the world who are applying COVID vaccines that destroy fertilization and unnecessary abortion to control the population as most women are fulfilling their commitment in scripture to provide propagation of the Earth. God wants us to take a stand in our current culture against those who would try to alter His plan for man and woman. In I Cor 16:13 and afterwards Paul provides five commands for men to be alert, stand firm, and act like mature men, in strength and loving, otherwise to man-up for Jesus. In anything this requires discipline, determination, perseverance, courage, focus, and great faith. Unfortunately, these are not traits of the majority of the young generation of men in our culture, many having been raised without a father figure. Our moral compass has been broken since 1963 when the Bible was removed from the public-school systems which paved a way for the liberal society that we witness today. Teaching young males to be men using Biblical principles is a necessary focus for the current older generations most of which have the scars of learning by doing and getting back up after failures to still reach for success – this requires the determination spoken of by Paul.