



By Bertha Rumble

Introduction

Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision. (Joel 3:14)

The day of the Lord is both a wonderful and a perilous time. It is an era that calls for right decisions. To those who love the Lord, the most important issue is deciding how to walk before Him. We will face many cross-roads of decision on our path of life. How do we decide which one is correct?, “Which one should I take?”, is a question many women are asking today.

The correct question is always, “What is Your will in this decision, Father?” The answer to this question is the subject which I am addressing.

The prophet Isaiah encourages us to seek the way of the Lord.

*. . . come and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord. To the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us His ways and we **shall walk in His paths** (Is. 2:3)*

When we sit at His feet and ask Him our questions, He will not give us a stone, but He will give us guidance through His word. David expresses it well:

Show me Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation. On You I wait all the day. (Ps. 25:4)

The Path of Humility

One of the first signposts we will see on the pathway of the Lord is humility. We need simple childlike faith and a humble heart to hear His voice clearly.

The humble He guides in justice and the humble He teaches His way. All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth. (Ps. 25:9-10)

The one who has a haughty look and a proud heart, him I will not endure. (Ps. 101:5)

Right decisions come from the mind of Christ, which is the way of humility. He is our example.

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ, Jesus . . . He made Himself of no reputation . . . taking the form of a servant . . . He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death on the cross. (Phil. 2:5-8)

The Lord is calling us, His daughters, to be humble, obedient servants. You who are married, be committed to making your homes pleasing to Him. Remember that your children are His precious jewels, and it will require dedicated time on your part to teach them His ways. What a joy it will be later to see them as adults serving the Lord. They will never forget the happy times when you humbled yourself to teach and train them; humility points to His kingdom.

The Path of Discipline

Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. (Mt. 11:28-30)

Imagine, if you will, two horses being harnessed as a team to pull a wagon. One horse is quietly standing still waiting to hear his master's voice. The other horse, who is young, is excitedly jumping around. He wants to be free of the harness and go his own way. Some days later, after a time of training in discipline, the young horse now trots beside the older one, happily pulling his share of the load. He has been prepared by discipline for his master's service.

Can we see ourselves in this scenario? We all want to be useful in the Lord's service; but it takes time. We must learn to submit to His hand and allow Him to mold us through discipline into a vessel fit for His use. Discipline may come in the form of difficult circumstances. However, we have to recognize that God will cause *all things* to work together for our good if we yield to Him and do not run from our circumstances. Problems and difficulties in the home can lead to maturity once we recognize our Father's hand of discipline in the situation.

Now no chastening (i.e. discipline) seems to be joyous for the present, but grievous; nevertheless, afterwards it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. (Heb. 12:4)

The Lord's discipline will provide guidance on the pathway of life for those who endure His training. And we all need discipline!

The Path of Choosing His Presence

We will only make the right choice when our priorities are correct.

*Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister named Mary, who also sat at Jesus feet and heard His words. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore, tell her to help me." And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. **But one thing is needed**, and Mary has chosen that good part which shall not be taken away from her. (Lk. 10:38-41)*

Both women made correct decisions at first; both were in the presence of Jesus. But Martha's personality got in the way as she became distracted by many menial tasks; her priority changed and she lost the presence of Jesus!

I am sure this has been true for all of us at times. It is so easy to do when we are overwhelmed by the "pots and pans" of life. It is apparent that the right choice is always those times when we choose to be in His presence. Such times must become our priority.

In my own life, I have desired to be like Mary, but it always seemed to me that I had too many responsibilities. "What can I do, Lord?" became my prayer. He spoke softly into my heart, "Get up earlier in the morning and spend an hour with Me." That meant rising at 5:00 A.M.

I can say that became the most enjoyable hour of my day. His presence went with me for the rest of the day. He is so faithful! He also spoke these words to my heart, ***“Have a Mary-mind with Martha-hands.”*** In a “Martha world, to have a Mary’s mind.”

At first it requires discipline to regularly come into His presence for prayer and intercession, but soon they will become times of great joy.

You will show me the path of life; in your presence is fullness of joy . . . (Ps. 16:11)

The Path of Holiness

A highway shall be there and a road, and it shall be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean will not pass over it, but it will be for others. Whoever walks the road, although a fool, shall not go astray . . . the redeemed of the Lord shall walk there . . . (Is. 35:8-9)

Jesus has proclaimed that He is the one and only way to the Father (John 14:6). Thus our walk as believers must be guided by the will and character of Jesus. We can only be holy from the presence and power of Christ in our hearts. Thus the path of holiness is expressed through the fruits of His Spirit, which are: love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). Each one can be thought of as a signpost pointing toward holiness.

How are these fruits produced? Jesus taught in His word that they will grow in our life as we abide in Him. We are branches, who bear fruit if we remain in union with Him, who is the vine. It is *His life*, not our efforts, that produces spiritual fruit. There are many false vines (wrong relationships) which we must avoid; Jesus is the only true vine!

Our heavenly Father is the vinedresser, and He prunes every branch that does not bear fruit in order to bring forth fruit. Pruning can involve hard circumstances. When such difficulties are encountered, we may say, “What am I doing wrong? This path is too hard.” However, the truth is that we are being pruned of selfish qualities which hinder the fruit of the Spirit from growing in our life. It is a painful discipline, a necessary process on the path to holiness.

We so often want to go our own way; to do our own thing. Dear ones, that only leads to disaster. We must abide on the vine, which is the path we have been called to walk upon.

The path of spiritual fruit-bearing is a narrow way; the way of self promotion is a broad way that leads to destruction.

“Narrow is the gate and difficult is the way that leads to spiritual life, and few there are who find it. (Matthew 7:14)”

The path of holiness leads us to become more like Jesus (2 Corinthians 3:18).

You shall be holy, for I am holy. (1 Pet. 1:16)

The Path of Truth

Jesus declared that He is the truth; and truth is God’s illumination for our pathway.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. (Ps. 119:105)

The entrance of Your words give light; it gives understanding to the simple. (Ps. 119:130)

If we don’t know, or don’t obey His word, we can easily be deceived and find ourselves on a wrong path. Truth is God’s light to dispel spiritual darkness. Because of the great darkness that is in the world today, a darkness that invades personal and family life, it is essential that we know the condition of our spiritual armor.

God has provided suitable armor that is sufficient to protect our personal and family lives. Let us examine each piece (Ephesians 6:10-20). We are to gird our waist with *truth*; put on sandals of preparation for the *gospel of peace*; take up the *shield of faith* to quench fiery darts from the enemy; we are to speak *His word*, especially to our children, for it is our spiritual *sword* to fight the enemy, and finally we are to persevere in prayer and *supplication* for the saints.

We are in warfare, and the Lord counsels us to “wake up” and redeem the time, because the days in which we live are evil days. All of God’s people, including mothers and homemakers are soldiers in His army. In order to protect our children, we must equip them with the Lord’s armor, and teach them by word and example to walk in the way of truth.

The Path of Life

Jesus is the life, and His life is the light of men (John 1:4; 14:6). How does this help us to walk out the affairs of our every day life? The answer is found in His word, We are exhorted to hold fast to the word of life (Phillipians 2:16). As we apply the truth of His word to our lives, and obey it, we will walk in life.

Let us examine the instructions of His word to older women (Titus 2:3-5). They are to be reverent in behavior, sober in spirit and they are not to be gossips! They are to teach the younger women to:

- love their husbands
- love their children
- be discrete (modest) and chaste
- be good homemakers, obedient to their own husband so that the word of God is not dishonored

Unmarried young ladies are to please their parents as they seek to know the path that God has chosen for them. If they marry, they are to please their husband as covenant partners before the Lord. Some may ask, “How do I show love to my husband?”

In my life, I can testify that the Lord directed me to maintain a clean, tidy and cozy home. This is the “practical life” environment for a good marriage! I began to do this in a one room apartment, and continued to do so over the years as our family grew. As I look back, I thank the Lord for His direction to me.

Extravagant things will not make us happy or content; however, joy, peace and righteousness do bring true happiness (Romans 14:17). The most valuable thing that I ever gave my children was the time that I spent with them, times when I taught them the ways of the Lord. I brought life to them.

There are so many neglected children in society today—even in America. Daughters of the King, the place to begin is in our own families; fill our homes with love. As the Lord leads, let us reach out in our neighborhood to help others with their children.

In Genesis, God stated that it was not good for man to be alone, and He made for Adam a wife, a helper comparable to (or suitable for) him (Genesis 2:18). Thus, a wife is to complete her husband for what God has called him to be in the church. They are to work together as one in peace and security. As a family, they are to be a complete unit, a basic building block of the church.

Marriage and the home are to reflect Christ and the church (Ephesians 5:22-31). Spiritual gifts are given to men and women alike, and even to children. All are to be humble servants so that Jesus alone is lifted up. Husbands are the spiritual covering for their wives; single sisters are to look to the Lord, the elders, their home church leaders and the body of Christ for their covering.

Single sisters are able to give themselves completely to serve the Lord. They are not encumbered with the many details of a household related to husband and children activities. Single sisters, your place in the body of Christ is very important! A beauty shines forth when one is completely given to the Lord; keep pressing on, continually looking to the Lord to please Him.

The Lord speaks to His daughters in scripture on how to express His life in dress, conduct and relationship.

We sisters are to dress to please our husband, we are to dress for modesty and we are to be clothed with good works (1 Timothy 2:9; 1 Peter 3:1-12). However, our outward physical appearance in clothing and good deeds is not as important as our inner person, which is seen by others in our character and words.

Let it be the hidden person of the heart (i.e. the inner person) with the incorruptible ornament of a meek and quiet spirit which is precious in the sight of God (1 Pet. 3:4).

A meek and quiet spirit in women is an expression of great beauty to God!

Married women may ask the question, “If I become a widow, will the church care for me?”

God’s word answers this question. If she does not have children to support her, and if she is destitute, the church is responsible to care for her. However, there are also character qualifications to be met that are based on her walk with the Lord (1 Timothy 5:15-16). These are as follows:

- She trusts in God and continues in prayer
- She is well reported for good works
- She has raised children and has been hospitable
- She has washed the saints feet (an act based on culture, which points to a willing humility to serve others)
- She has relieved the afflicted
- She is not a gossip, a busybody, nor is she idle

In short, her present and past life should reflect the heart of a bond-servant who loves the Lord. Therefore, it is proper for the church to return that same love and care to her when she is destitute.

Conclusion

Daughters of the King, whether we're young, married or widowed, He calls us to walk in the light of His countenance, in humility, under His discipline, in His presence, in holiness, truth and life. He has placed His path before us!

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; mercy and truth go before Your face. Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! They walk, o Lord, in the light of Your countenance (Ps. 89:14-15).



FOUNTAIN OF LIFE PUBLICATIONS

*No copyright restrictions. Tracts may be copied.
Offerings will be gratefully appreciated.*

71 Old Kings Highway • Lake Katrine, NY 12449
(845) 336-7333

For this tract and others download from

www.thefountain.org

Dale Rumble can be reached at (845) 382-1953