

December 29 2019

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

God sets a father in honor over his children;
a mother's authority he confirms over her sons.
Whoever honors his father #atones for sins,
and preserves himself from them.
When he prays, he is heard;
he stores up riches who reveres his mother.
Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children,
and, when he prays, is heard.
Whoever reveres his father will live a long life;
he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother.

My son, take care of your father when he is old;
grieve him not as long as he lives.
Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him;
revile him not all the days of his life;
kindness to a father will not be forgotten,
firmly planted against the #debt of your sins
—a house raised in justice to you.

Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD,
who walks in his ways!
For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork;
blessed shall you be, and favored.

Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways

Your wife shall be like a **fruitful vine**
in the recesses of your home;
your children like **olive plants**
around your table.

Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways

Behold, thus is the man blessed / who fears the LORD.

The LORD bless you from Zion: / may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life.

Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways

Colossians 3:12-21

Brothers and sisters:

Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience,
bearing with one another and forgiving one another,
if one has a grievance against another;
as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do.

The Wisdom of **SIRACH** is simple:
Respect your Mother and Father.
Care for them, when they are old
as they cared for you when you
were young.

Reverence for your parents will
stand like an olive tree as
to repair damage
from your sins.

The 'image' is **olive trees:**
firmly planted
&
olive plants

Olive Trees last 2,00 years!

*More on olive trees:
They take over 40
years to begin giving
fruit!
= PATIENCE.*

Paul applies the ideas of
SIRACH to
the 'CHURCH Family'.

And over all these put on love,
that is, the bond of perfection.
And let the peace of Christ control your hearts,
the peace into which you were also called in one body.
And be thankful.
Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another,
singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs
with gratitude in your hearts to God.
And whatever you do, in word or in deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through him.

{These following lines may be omitted, since they are often mis-understood today!}

[Wives, be subordinate to your husbands,
as is proper in the Lord.
Husbands, love your wives,
and avoid any bitterness toward them.
Children, obey your parents in everything,
for this is pleasing to the Lord.
Fathers, do not provoke your children,
so they may not become discouraged.]

Pretty much what
SIRACH said
about relating to others.

Note: ONE duty for wives; ONE for kids;
TWO for men.

- a) Love your wives; NO bitterness!
- b) Dads, don't be too hard on your kids.

{My kids when they were younger seized
on these last 2 lines! LOL }

Colossians 3:15a, 16a

Let the peace of Christ control your hearts;
let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Matt 2:13-15, 19-23

When the magi had departed, behold,
the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph *in a dream* and said,
"Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt,
and stay there until I tell you.

Note again Matt emphasizes
the **faith** of Joseph,
and his **faithful** actions.

Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him."
Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night
and departed for Egypt.

{LUKE tells his story from
MARY's view;
her faith and trust in God.}

He stayed there until the death of Herod,
that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled,
Out of Egypt I called my son.

{Hosea 11:1, see intro }

When Herod had died, behold,
the angel of the Lord appeared *in a dream*
to Joseph in Egypt and said,
"Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel,
for those who sought the child's life are dead."
He rose, took the child and his mother,
and went to the land of Israel.

***Are YOU "awake" to God's message?
Will you listen when God talks?--
even in unexpected ways?***

But when he heard that Archelaus* was ruling over Judea
in place of his father Herod,
he was afraid to go back there.

And because he had been warned *in a dream*,
he departed for the region of Galilee.

He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth#,
so that what had been spoken through the prophets
might be fulfilled,
He shall be called a Nazorean#.

{*one of Herod's sons; so bad that
the Romans got rid of him after 1 year.}

{Notice again that Joseph is
OPEN to God's message.}

So instead of returning
to Bethlehem which is in Judea,
Joseph took Mary and Jesus
to Galilee, in the north.

see intro for these two words: Nazareth# & Nazorean#