

Sarah's Daughters

Maximizing the relationships of life as a woman
Grasping the nuclear bonds of our destiny



INTRODUCTION

Maybe you've picked up this book and thought "What a strange title! What does it mean?" Actually, it references this passage in Scripture:

The same goes for you wives: Be good wives to your husbands, responsive to their needs. There are husbands who, indifferent as they are to any words about God, will be captivated by your life of holy beauty. What matters is not your outer appearance—the styling of your hair, the jewelry you wear, the cut of your clothes—but your inner disposition. Cultivate inner beauty, the gentle, gracious kind that God delights in. The holy women of old were beautiful before God that way, and were good, loyal wives to their husbands. Sarah, for instance, taking care of Abraham, would address him as "my dear husband."

You'll be true daughters of Sarah if you do the same, unanxious and unintimidated.

1 Peter 3:1-6 (Message)

I realize this is not the latest flash of hot talk most women of the twenty-first century are hungry for. In an internet age of world access, fresh-to-the-second social media updating and burgeoning technology, the ancient wisdom of Scripture must seem dull indeed. It's so terribly dusty, plodding, pedantic and patriarchal! Haven't you heard...we're modern women? Get past your initial hot flush of feminist indignation and hang in there with me. You'll soon realize that to be called a Daughter of Sarah is one of the high-water marks of stalwart strength and beauty. It's a unique distinction.

The women of our age are scrambling to keep up with the challenges of the day. They are pulled into absurdly demanding schedules in order to function and answer their responsibilities in the best way they can. Some have bought the lie that success lies in juggling preposterous timetables and pleasing insatiable taskmasters. The Kingdom of God has always offered us a far more restful and effectual way to fulfill all the roles of our lives. However, we must leave the maelstrom of current 'girl-power' thinking and return to ancient paths in order to find it.

Consider for a moment the legacy of Sarah, our mother of faith. The name Sarah comes from the Hebrew root 'Sar' which means chieftain, ruler, captain, to be or act as a prince; to bear rule. Most of the time 'Sarah' is translated as 'princess', but this a pretty weak-wristed interpretation of a word that basically means 'fierce warrior or leader'. 'Sarah' (and being her daughter) is all about reclaiming the authority of the feminine and using it powerfully, effectually and justly to better the world around you. It is the ability to reclaim the destiny of your life and fulfill your true potential.

When we speak of Sarah, we are talking about the woman of destiny God designates as 'the mother of our faith' (James 4:24-31). Abraham is the father of faith, but Sarah is our mother. A formidable beauty in every sense of the word, she had the Lord's full attention (and plenty of males panting after her as well). She was both Abraham's sister and his wife, which makes for a very interesting study of their long and complex relationship. She is held up in scripture as the model of righteousness, wisdom and patience every woman on the planet should be emulating. Don't be fooled by the passage of time, this old girl has plenty to teach a modern generation drunk on their own power and the lust for fifteen minutes of fame. If the Lord holds you up as a paragon of virtue, then you can brag, but until then, a few lessons from the playbook of Sarah might be helpful. She's the dazzling jewel set in the crown of Jesus...an incomparable paragon. If Sarah is the 'Mother of our Faith', then let's tap back into the motherlode.

In a world intent on slotting women into narrow categories and keeping them there until their usefulness is exhausted, this rare combination of grace and fiercely combative wisdom could put us miles ahead in the game. The quintessential nature of women has not changed, although the era we find ourselves in is radically different from the culture of Sarah's time. However, as long as Sodom and Gomorrah are still our neighbors, there's plenty of tricky navigation afoot. Misogyny, Chauvinism, violence and injustice are wildly rampant against women in an age that calls itself enlightened by Feminism. The danger from our enemy, Satan, is still as vividly close as it ever was, and his strategies are unaltered. We need the ability to fight and stay in the battle until all obstacles are levelled, hindrances removed and power of veto dissolved. To look to

the example of someone who has safely traversed them all is wisdom. In a very real sense, tapping into the motherlode of wisdom as exemplified by Sarah yields to us all manner of victorious strategies. The Lord has far more effective strategies to combat the prejudice and inequity between the sexes. To be the last woman standing is really the victory of the Daughters of Sarah...and the last laugh goes to us too! God has created each of us with unique potential. He has also placed us in families we had no choice in, or say over. This is where things get interesting, because when we try to fight against what God has joined together, (instead of working with it), we actually drain the power and vitality out of our own lives. Instead of winning the battle, we are essentially tearing ourselves apart by denying the integrity of holy bonds. What God has joined together, only God can sever, so maybe instead of fighting Him, we need to take a step back and begin to ask the right kind of questions. Maybe, the key lies in the answers to these:

'Why did you place me in this family?'

What are the gifts and anointings you have given to my genetic lines, and how do I fit into the big picture of your blessing over this family?

What is my destiny, specifically, and how do I work with the nuclear relationships of family and marriage to maximize these?

What is the role of a woman in the life of her mother, father, sister, brother, son, daughter and her Lord?

How, by recapturing righteous relationships can I augment the effectual fruitfulness of my life?

This is what the dialog of this book is all about. Leaving preconceived ideas, bitter regrets, historic heartbreaks and checkered pasts behind us, we will revisit the land of relationships...specifically, the nuclear relationships of family. Using the Bible, we will search for God's true intent in creating each bond and recapture the powerful blessings suffused supernaturally into the rich layers of each relationship.

We are created in the image of the Divine. The trinity of the Trinity is the actual blueprint for the relationships of family. Jesus Himself described it to us this way: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In Abba, we find our perfect Father. In Jesus, we find not only Savior, but brother-friend (sibling). The Holy

Spirit Himself personifies the template for Mothering in His roles as comforter, advocate, birther and 'brooder'. As we explore the holiness of family, what we will really recapture is our identity as the true sons and daughters of the living God. Come with me as we plunge into the somewhat murky and unfathomable waters of the Deep. It may not sound that exciting, but ancient treasures and secret caches lie concealed within. All manner of rare and singular gifts given to you alone are waiting to be rediscovered! Just a note of caution: 'There be Dragons!' However, as long as Jesus is leading the way, any number of difficult journeys may be safely traversed. It's time to reclaim the Father's Blessing. It's time to get back what is really ours. Come on, Little One. Greatness is waiting for you.

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