Jesus and Women

John 19:25-27

Even in the throes of death Jesus love for His mother and the example He set for how women are to be treated is extraordinary. In the midst of dying He thought about His mother. In the midst of suffocating under the crosses brutality He shows how a woman should be treated. He reminds a disciple women are not to be forgotten under any circumstances.

When we look at the life of Jesus as it related to women many would be surprise to realize that Jesus championed women. Jesus gave women dignity. Jesus validated women when the society and era He lived in were in fact misogynistic. They practiced a hate for women that is even lived out today.

I lift this subject up because Sunday is Mother's day. It is the day when women held in the loftiest place this society knows for a woman. That place is motherhood. I think it is fitting that we look at the way the Master treated women in contrast to the rest of society.

Several women's stories have been in the Gospel and each time we find Jesus giving them the dignity and love that others refuse to give them. Remember the adulteress that was caught in the act. Jesus lifted her up and restored her dignity. There was the prostitute who loved Jesus more than the Pharisee and bathed his feet with expensive perfume. Do not forget the woman at the well who had been married several times and Jesus reconciled her to the extent that she began to tell the village that ignored and ostracized her she had met the Messiah. We dare not forget the woman with the issue of blood. A woman lost in her own world of separation. A woman who had been taken advantaged by would be doctors and charlatans. She went to Jesus and found someone who cared. Someone who restored her. Through these stories Jesus displayed a love that was fitted for each of them individually. He loved them all the same yet found the kind of love that fit their individual needs and yearnings. These women revealed the different aspects of Jesus love and they in turned loved Him back. But it was His love and their need that brought them together. The scripture tells the story of this relationship. 1 John 4:19 says **"We love Him because He first loved us." There is no greater truth than.**

Jesus is the example that we all can look to inform the way women are treated in this society. Each woman we can say

did not know they loved the way they were loved until the met Him. I'm sure they thought Jesus to be like any other man of that time. But He received their brokenness not as an obstacle but an opportunity to minister to them. To show them the love of God that has been given from the foundation of the world.

When we look at the role that women played in the life of Jesus. I is surprising that He treated women the way He did. We must not forget He had a mother. A mother who traveled with. A mother who walked the road Galilee with Him. A mother who went to affairs and wedding banquets. It she who taught him the value of a woman. It was Mary who taught the Lamb of God how to treat women. And it was Mary and other women who were there at the cross when the disciples were hiding. To find women at the cross. Especially when women were not accorded the rights and privileges of men during this period. This should not surprise anyone. Women were weeping for Him as He walked the Del Rosa Road. They were there when they crucified. They were there when they laid Him in the tomb. They sat by His sepulcher where He was buried. Women were the first to be with Jesus after the resurrection. The women told the disciples that Jesus had risen.

It is an important to recognize that these stories are included in the Gospel message for a reason. It is so we will begin to recognize the value of women. So we can begin to appreciate all they do. So we can say thank you. Not just on Mother's day but every day we a woman doing something to make our lives better.

Happy Mother's Day to you all