

## God Uses Mothers

Scripture Reading: Psalm 71:1-24

This great psalm is full of rich thought for us to consider about the loving care of God and His provision / His deliverance from evil. That God has given commandment to save us (Psalm 71:3) shows His power, authority, and will are all directed towards the benefit of His people (The NIV & NLT have turned the phrase in Psalm 71:3 into a request that God would command to save us, but most major translations favor the KJV – See Ephesians 1:3-14; John 6:37-40; James 1:18; I Peter 1:2-5). Perhaps a summary thought could be used from Romans 8:31, “... ***If God be for us who can be against us?***” (cp. Romans 8:26-39). The righteous works of God and the acts of His salvation / His deliverance are more than we can number (Psalm 71:15 cp. Psalm 40:5, 16-17). Perhaps Psalm 104:33-34 also captures the essence of Psalm 71, “... ***I will sing unto the LORD as long as I live... My meditation of Him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the LORD.***” See also Psalm 27:1-14; 34:15-22.

But this lesson is focusing on mothers / motherhood. How many references to mothers can you find in this psalm? At first glance, we see a mother mentioned two times in Psalm 71:6. The psalmist refers to his birth and the womb (KJV “*bowels*” – Greek = “*soft, inward parts*”). But a further search of this psalm and we see references to “*from my youth*” (Psalm 71:5,17). In most cases, this time of life is full of the activity and involvement of mothers. Then we have another phrase in Psalm 71:18 that mentions, “*everyone that is to come / all who are to come.*” If we are going to have more people born in this world, then mothers will need to be around, too! Probing into this psalm can help us realize how much we ignore / take for granted mothers and motherhood.

**Let’s take inventory from this psalm, and look at the prospect of what God is doing through motherhood.**

**Psalm 71:6** – The work that mothers do in carrying their unborn child and the deliverance of that child from the womb is attended by the grace of God. See Genesis 20:18; 25:23-24; 29:31; 30:2,22; Psalm 113:9; 139:13-16; Galatians 1:15.

**Psalm 71:5, 17** – A mother should be an important part of people learning early to know, love, and trust the Lord. See Proverbs 1:8-9; 4:1-3; 14:1; 31:1; II Timothy 1:5; 3:14-17.

**Psalm 71:18** – We need to honor women, individually, as mothers. We also need to promote / protect the institutions of marriage, family, fatherhood, and motherhood. The future of the world will be affected by this. See Psalm 145:4; Romans 1:21-32 (This is not just about a sexual and homosexual revolution. It is also an attack against God’s order in marriage and the roles of men and women in the home and in society); I Timothy 5:14-15; Titus 2:3-5; I Peter 3:1-7.