

January 27th 2018

# JLH Women's Saturday Devotions

Weaker Vessels

Sis. Henriques

My grandmother is an 87 year old Christian woman, born in Mississippi, married when she was 17 to the same man for sixty-five years and raised their children in a **four room** tin roof house. My grandmother had 12 children, four miscarriages, never learned to drive, never had an outside job and in that same four room home, had time to deliver me. She was a “housewife” and never complained about it. My grandmother outlived two of her children, her husband and three grandchildren. She prepared home cooked meals, had no outside help raising her children and getting them ready for school, she didn't watch soap operas or entangled herself in other people's business, daily she tend to her home. And went to church with all her children. In today's society a stay home woman would be foolish to a feminist, I'm so proud of my grandmother and grandfather, they are BLESSED!

***1 Peter 3:7 Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers be not hindered.***

I commend Peter describing submissive wives, But, did he forget that he got weak? He denied Jesus Christ, lied and cursed he did not know Jesus. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 7:8-9 a woman should remain single as he but if “**they**” can't control themselves “**they**” should marry. Again, I agree, to avoid fornication and having children out of wedlock. Being single you have more time with God. But, Paul was weak also and God's **grace** was sufficient in his weakness and would be for women as well, Amen.

***2 Corinthians 12:8-10 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.*** God is no respecter of person, regardless how strong we may think we are, we are weak vessels.

Ladies, Paul gloried and took pleasure in his weakness whatever it may have been, we shall also glory in our weakness. The word “weak” means **not strong in strength**, as a woman I didn't want to be a wife after reading Peter and Paul statement about women. The Lord humbled me and helped me understand the word **weaker** and focus on the word **vessel** also. The word vessel in the bible demonstrates the use of clay formed from dust to create something beautiful, strong and useful. Acts 9:15-16 referred to Paul, a human vessel used by God. ***But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.***

Although Peter says women are weaker vessels, God did not exempt man from their weakness regardless of their strength. Paul, an educated man became weak, Samson, a strong man weak, King David, a powerful man weak, Solomon a rich man weak, Ahab really weak. Weakness and suffering is part of human nature caused by sin from the beginning and it was by a weak woman. I agree, women may not be as physically strong as a man (well depends on the man, giggles) but their are women in the bible who were strong in wisdom and prayer, they were mothers, housewives, judges, queens, business women used for God's Glory and still took care of their homes. And we have women among us today that are strong in God.

A man was **not** called to bare children and **not** strong enough to handle the pain. My grandfather couldn't handle 12 children, a child with a fever, cooking, cleaning the house, talking on the phone while holding a newborn, making dinner and appointments, sweeping and dealing with challenging teenagers at the same time. Ladies, I agree we are weaker vessels but we can do ALL things through Christ who gives us strength! If you're a single woman/mother who felt like Hagar who was sent away with a child to the wilderness without enough water and food, God is a promise keeper, He's your husband and will supply all your needs. The Lord **chose men (husbands)** to be a provider, a protector, a father, a king in his home to his queen. God created the woman to be nurturing, loving, compassionate, humble and patient to her husband, children and to herself.

As weaker vessels we are made strong in our weakness by God's “Grace” which is sufficient. Thank God for his Grace and his Mercy towards all. Women we ought to Thank the Lord for God fearing men. Keep praying for them. Be encouraged. God bless.

**When a weak woman is submissive to her husband and a weak man is submissive to God,  
they are BOTH strong vessels in the Lord. Amen! God Bless**