

# **A TOUR OF WOMAN –A GODLY CREATION**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Scores of others have written books about the greatness of women, so what makes this book different? I humbly offer the following:

- Most of the crucial lessons in life that I learned came from women.
- God used women to instruct me and to reveal many of the things I needed to know to be a total person. Although I grew up without a father's guiding hand, women pointed me to the greatest "Father" of all—God. What I missed from the absence of an earthly dad, God worked through women to teach me how to appreciate, love, and to respect a woman. They taught me how to be a real man.
- The majority of this book focuses on women; however, I hope that men will also accept the challenge to be all that God created *them* to be in support of women. It is my fervent hope that those who read this book will be motivated to reach out to the women in their lives and let them know how much they are appreciated and loved. This is my hope for my daughters, granddaughters, and great granddaughters. It is my hope for a better world.

### **The Creative Attributes of Women**

I marvel at God's plan for the procreation of life for all species on this earth, especially humans. In the beginning, God placed the seed of humanity in man. But without the unique anatomical, biological, emotional, physiological, and spiritual attributes of a woman, man's seed would have been useless. Moreover, the Lord established this immutable process for *all* life on earth! As a result, I believe a woman's ability to conceive, nurture, and give birth to a child is her greatest attribute. However, for many reasons, not all women can or will become mothers by physical birth. Nevertheless, motherhood is an *act, behavior, and commitment* rendered from a strong mind, kind heart and loving nature. It is a God-given instinct that cannot be suppressed or denied. Yet, God still allows the woman to have the free will to bear children. Above all, *love* trumps *blood*; therefore, countless women are serving as loving mothers to children born of other women.

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **IN THE BEGINNING**

#### **THE CREATION STORY**

I first heard about the *Creation Story* when I was about twelve years old. It was an exciting vision that filled my youthful mind with awe and wonder. Already a "dreamer," I

imagined the universe evolving and visualized the earth as a pristine planet, unmarred by human hands. I had wanted to fly airplanes since I was seven years old; now I was anxious to soar high above the earth and see it from thousands of feet in the sky.

## **Inspired By God**

Despite the expansive and magnificent evidence of God's creation, it took three catastrophic events before I finally "saw" His greatness. The first resulted from two combat tours in Vietnam seven years apart. The next was a lightning strike while piloting an F-15 jet at twenty thousand feet. The last was a rocket-seat ejection approximately six seconds before my crippled jet made a seventy-foot fiery crater in the ground. The lightning strike proved to be the Lord's wake-up call, but it still took another four more years before I finally realized my personal account was woefully overdrawn!

At age thirty-eight, I had become blind to the truths about God and had lost sight of the most important things in my life. The last near-death experience finally got my attention and caused me to realize that there really was someone bigger than me - the great creator of the universe! That revelation was the beginning of my spiritual rebirth. This "turning point" caused me finally to see God's greatness in those closest to me - my precious wife and family. It was a dramatic awakening, and I began to see all people and things in a different light.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **EMBRACING YOUR GREATNESS**

In the context of the Godly role for women, both men and women need to reshape their attitudes and perspectives of how women should be viewed in the present-day society. Sadly, the image of women has been terribly distorted and exploited by every area of media and social outlets; however, there needs to be a tidal wave of change. Young women in particular, need to be more appreciated, affirmed, and held in esteem. But they need to believe in themselves. Women still have the power to shape the world's view of who they are. I, for one, am not ready to concede that America and the world are doomed to continue down the destructive path of the exploitation of women! It's time for women to demand better and strive to transform our society by using the creative greatness that God has given them.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **THE MANIFESTATIONS OF GREATNESS**

The manifestation of greatness in women can be seen in the multitude of roles they are often called to perform or obliged to play out in the lives of others. In the master plan for humanity, there is clear evidence that the Creator chooses how, when, where, or who is

called to serve. Each person created is given certain gifts to exercise for the benefit of others. Thus, when a woman seeks to know herself and embraces her God-given gifts, she is capable of doing great and marvelous works. Most people have witnessed such commitment, dedication, and tireless work of women across a spectrum of roles in their lives. This book highlights just a few of these professional women, teachers and educators, pastor's wives, committed single women, and others.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### VICTORY OVER ADVERSITY

Adversity is a part of life, and no one escapes the occurrences that will come, often unexpectedly or when it is most inconvenient. Crippling illnesses, divorce, and/or death are three of the most difficult challenges that women face. In addition, many women suffer or feel crippled from a plethora of events that may have occurred earlier in their childhood or during their young adult lives. Some older women sometimes suffer because of neglect by their spouses or families in their later years when support is needed the most. The anguish and pain suffered during these circumstances cause many women to give up in despair; however, God is faithful and will not forsake anyone who believes and trusts in Him.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### FOUR WOMEN IN MY LIFE

My mother was truly one of *God's Greatest Creations*, but she died when I was a college student. Because of what she taught me about the nature of a woman, I was eventually able to discern the greatness in the other most important women in my life – my sister, wife, mother-in-law, and my daughters. Unequivocally, these are the most extraordinary women I have ever known. Through them, God has blessed me beyond words, and they have had the utmost impact on my life. All that I am today can be attributed to their collective love, compassion, long-suffering, and ceaseless intercession before God on my behalf. I confess that I haven't always deserved such goodness, and even now I sometimes fall short of the glory of God. But, because of their exemplary character, I learned how to love God with all my heart, all my soul, and all my strength. In doing so, He opened my eyes and mind to understand that *all things are possible* through Him. Thus, the love I have received from these incredible women has come through God; and the human imperfections and shortcomings of us all have been transformed into His perfect love between us. That is the true miracle in my life, and I truly praise God for it.

## CHAPTER SIX

### A MESSAGE FOR MEN

#### Biblical Imperatives

*“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteous of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world, His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”* Romans 1:18-20.

When I first meditated over these words, I was deeply convicted over my significant shortcomings as a husband, father, man, and above all, as a Christian. As my spiritual rebirth grew, I accepted the God-given responsibility to enable my family to become all that He created them to be. My greatness would be determined by what I did for the women and children in my life. By humbly submitting my life to God, I gained the desire and strength needed to embrace the challenge.

## CHAPTER SEVEN

### ACCEPTING GOD’S PLAN

Earlier, I wrote about how God created man and woman and how He established the “*oneness*” between *them* and *Himself*. Accordingly, God gave a Biblical commandment to man and woman to love Him with all their heart, all their soul, and all their strength. I truly believe that the commandment to love God is the crux of every other relationship between man and woman, parents and children, friends and neighbors, communities and churches, the nation, and the world. Regardless of all human aspirations, until man and woman establish a sincere relationship with God, neither will ever experience the true purpose of their creation – to *know* and *serve* Him. Thus, the plan for all humanity evolves from the great Creator – God!

## CHAPTER NINE

### THE HISTORICAL PROMINENCE OF WOMEN

Since earliest history, women were considered intellectually inferior to men and only recognized for their creative ability to bear children. Historians focused on the exploits of men and presented them as the heroes of their eras. During the time of Jesus, Greek, Jewish, and Roman societies were largely patriarchal. Women were generally considered subordinate to men; and they were not allowed to attend school, control

property, or hold political office. Instead, women were expected to be obedient wives who worked in silent seclusion as caretakers of the homes and children. Conversely, Egypt was one of few exceptions. Egyptian women enjoyed a legal status almost equal to men. They were educated, free, and a few even reigned as pharaohs. The Egyptian women also had inheritance rights, were able to acquire wealth and political power, and make choices about who they married. The status of Egyptian women survived through the period of ancient Greek to the emergence of ancient Rome.

## **CHAPTER ELEVEN**

### **WOMEN OF THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

#### **Major Breakthroughs**

At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, America, as a republic, was just 124 years old. Over the next 100 years, our country and world experienced a quantum leap across the spectrum of cultural, economic, educational, military, political, and social barriers. The creative and ingenious application of science and technology enabled America to rise from its cradle of infancy to become the leading world power in less than fifty years. This advancement was made possible by the birth of aviation, medical improvements, and diminished contagious diseases. America's progress also can be attributed to the outcome of two world wars, progress in civil and women's rights, space exploration, and the conquering of scores of other frontiers. Despite such incredible human achievements, the 20<sup>th</sup> century still found women outside the boundaries of political and social structures in America. Women still could not vote, serve on juries, hold elective office, or manage their own wealth. A major breakthrough took place on August 18, 1920 when the Nineteenth Amendment (Amendment XIX) to the United States Constitution became the law throughout the United States. This hard-fought milestone prohibited any United States citizen from being denied the right to vote on the basis of sex. The "future" had finally begun!