

THREE GREAT THINGS

2 Timothy 1:5; 3:14-15

(Brief outline, add own comments)

Introduction: No doubt Paul thought a lot of Timothy for he mentioned much about him in his writing. Paul spoke of Timothy's religious upbringing, his being a spiritual young man, and the responsibilities that Timothy had. Paul accredited much of Timothy's success as a Christian and a "missionary" to his home life. No doubt a child's home life will affect his/her adult life when he/she takes on adult responsibilities. Parents have tremendous responsibilities in bringing up their children.

I. THE GREATEST PRIVILEGE A PERSON CAN HAVE

1. Material things are great but there are some who were born poor, who will live poor and will die poor and then there are those who are born into a family that has wealth, material goods, which is good to have.
2. A healthy life is great but there are some who were born sick, who live all their lives sick and who die in sickness, then there are those who have been healthy all their lives and this is a wonderful thing to have.
3. A Christian childhood is the greatest privilege a person can have.
 - The lifestyle in a christian home is not like elsewhere.
 - There is a different kind of atmosphere in a christian home.
 - There is a different kind of love than in a non-christian home.
 - Children are taught by example, the things of God.

II. THE GREATEST RESPONSIBILITY ONE CAN HAVE

1. In the medical area, taking care of the sick, performing surgery, etc. all are needed and to be able to work in this area is wonderful.
2. There are emergency responders such as firemen, policemen, rescue squads, ambulances, and all these are valuable and greatly needed and to work as one of these is a good thing.
3. Those who help take care of the government are certainly needed and their positions are very important, and without them the nation would be in great trouble.
4. However, there is a person who has the greatest responsibility of all and that is a Christian parent.
 - From birth to nine years are the most important years of a child's life.
 - Bringing up a child in the ways of the Lord when Satan and the world are trying to take the child away during those formative years, is the most important time in that child's life.

IV. THE GREATEST SATISFACTION ONE CAN HAVE

1. To be able to provide all the material needs a family needs is a wonderful thing.
2. To provide education at the finest institutions is a much needed thing.
3. To have a good reputation among one's neighbors and at work is also admirable.

4. However, the greatest satisfaction one can have is to see his/her whole family come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and then to serve Him. THIS is the greatest thing parents can ever hope and pray for and try to accomplish with their children.

CONCLUSION:

1. Upon which family member does all the responsibility fall? It is MOTHER!
- The privilege, responsibility and satisfaction falls upon MOTHER.
2. It is MOTHER who brings that little life into the world, feeds that child, bathes it, clothes it and teaches it.
3. It is MOTHER who will be first and last in her children's minds.
4. What an awesome responsibility, what an awesome privilege!
5. MOTHER! YOU are to be properly recognized and when you stand before almighty God, YOU will be.