

Week 19
129/238

Transforming Daily
“... In pain you shall bring forth children ...”
Genesis 3:16

Occasionally I find myself in conversation with some guys who are complaining about pain. The conversation usually is about foot pain or back pain or a toothache. The complaint might be about a broken bone or migraine. Now as real as those pains are, and in some cases severe, my usual response is until men can carry a child full term and through the birthing process, I don't think we have much pain to complain about.

Sin is obviously the culprit here. The ravages of sin are pain, chaos and death. If you have ever seen or heard about the process of pregnancy and birth, you know that two of these factors are usually present and sometimes the third. When I say sin is the culprit here I mean the general ramifications of Adam's sin, not necessarily as a result of the presence of specific sin in an individual's life (although sometimes specific sin is present, i.e., David and Bathsheba, and that intensifies the circumstances). That notwithstanding, it is enough that women carry and bear children through much pain. If for no other reason, and there are many other reasons, mothers should be honored for this privilege and responsibility everyday not just on Mother's Day.

The womb has literally been a spiritual and physical battlefield for generations, and has intensified in the war against abortion in America since 1973. In honor of mothers, our prayers for and principles of life should reflect a sincere dedication and commitment to protect the womb. After all, what if your mother chose to eliminate from her womb a “mass” that was, is, and has become you?

I thank God for mothers who are committed to biblical family values. I thank God for women who for whatever reason have not, cannot, or will not bear children, but hold to the biblical family values through a different kind of pain. I thank God for mothers who endured, are presently enduring, or will endure the privileged pain of birthing a child into this world knowing beforehand that in pain you shall bring forth children.