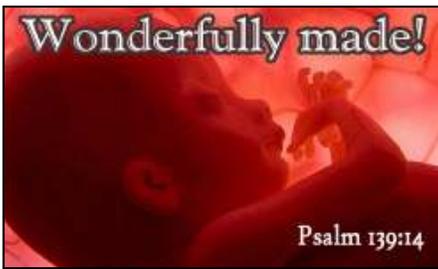


How Precious To Me



In His Image

Both fatherhood and motherhood reside in the divine—in God. The mother-heart of God is not as visible but without it we would not have a chance in growing up into the image of Him who made us.

A Mother's Love

Helen Steiner Rice

*A Mother's love is something
that no one can explain,
It is made of deep devotion
and of sacrifice and pain,
It is endless and unselfish
and enduring come what may
For nothing can destroy it
or take that love away . . .
It is patient and forgiving
when all others are forsaking,
And it never fails or falters
even though the heart is breaking . . .
It believes beyond believing
when the world around condemns,
And it glows with all the beauty
of the rarest, brightest gems . . .
It is far beyond defining,
it defies all explanation,
And it still remains a secret
like the mysteries of creation . . .
A many splendoured miracle
man cannot understand
And another wondrous evidence
of God's tender guiding hand.*

Spiritual Mother's and God's Plan

Jesus spoke to his mother from the cross: "Woman, behold your son," indicating John the disciple. Then, to John: "Behold your mother." John was of course not Mary's biological son, but the Lord, assigned her to John as his spiritual mother.

There is rejoicing for the woman with no children as God will provide 'spiritual children' to 'nurture' in the way of the Lord.

Isaiah 54:1 [MSG] "Sing, barren woman, who has never had a baby. Fill the air with song, you who've never experienced childbirth! You're ending up with far more children than all those childbearing women." GOD says so!

Psalm 139:1-6; 13-18

:1 You have searched me and known me.

:2 You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off.

:3 You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways.

:4 For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether.

:5 You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me.

:6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it.

:13 For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb.

:14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.

:15 My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

:16 Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them.

:17 How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them!

:18 If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I am still with You.