



## Mother's Day 2013 Behold Thy Son

John the Apostle and four women gathered near the cross during Christ's last moments. Jesus was fulfilling the will of His Father but also took care of His earthly responsibility as a son to His mother.

### A. Four Women Around The Cross! John 19:25

*"Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene."*

1. **Jesus' mother, Mary:** For over 30 years she had pondered' in her heart all the amazing things about her son Jesus. Mary was one of His disciples.

2. **His mother's sister:** This was *Salome*, the mother of James and John (sons of thunder) the sons of Zebedee. John (the author of the Gospel) does not name himself or other relatives in his writing. Salome was a disciple!

3. **Mary the wife of Cleophas:** The early church fathers believed that Cleophas was the brother of Joseph (Mary's husband). This Mary was a disciple of Jesus.

4. **Mary Magdalene:** Jesus had healed this Mary (Luke 8:2) and she became a prominent disciple.

### B. Behold Thy Son: John 19:26

*"When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!"*

1. **Jesus' brothers?** So what happened to the brothers of Jesus? Why would he not entrust His mother to them? At the time of the crucifixion his brothers were doubtful of who He said He was.

2. **John the disciple:** Besides providing for Mary's needs—John may have been the best to provide emotional support.

### C. Behold Thy Mother: John 19:27

*"Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home."*

1. **John's spiritual mother:** Remember, John's own mother Solome is standing right there. Was there a reason that Jesus thought that His mother could provide a kind of spiritual support to John. James, John's brother would be martyred in the early days of the church. John would write the Gospel of John, 1st, 2nd and 3rd John and the Revelation.

### Rejoice The Lord Is King

© Public Domain  
Charles Wesley

Rejoice the Lord is King  
Your Lord and King adore  
Rejoice give thanks and sing  
And triumph ever more

#### < Chorus

Lift up your heart  
Lift up your voice  
Rejoice again I say rejoice!

#### < Verse 2

Jesus the Savior reigns  
The God of truth and love  
When He had purged our stains  
He took His seat above

#### <Verse 3

His Kingdom can not fail  
He rules o'er earth and heav'n  
The keys of death and hell  
Are to our Jesus giv'n

#### <Verse 4

Rejoice in glorious hope  
Our Lord and judge shall come  
And take His servants up to  
Their eternal home.

### Mother's Day:

On April 6, 1983, in a Proclamation for **Mother's Day**, **President Ronald Reagan** stated:

To our mothers, we owe our highest esteem, for it is from their gift of life that the flow of events begins that shapes our destiny. A mother's love, nurturing, and beliefs are among the strongest influences molding the development and character of our youngsters. As Henry Ward Beecher wrote,

*"What a mother sings to the cradle goes all the way down to the coffin."*