**These Perilous Times**

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**“Celebrating Honorable Women”**

 Question: What does Queen Esther, Rahab, Hariet Taubman, and Sojourner Truth all have in Common? Answer: They risked their own lives for the safety and freedom of others-exemplifying the true character of Christ. Notice the relevance of the following Bible text concerning these *“honorable”* women.

“Greater love has no one than this, to lay down one’s life for his friends.” John 15:13 NKJV

 These courageous women were willing not only to give their lives for friends and family, but also people whom they may have never met before!

 Harriet Taubman, and Sojourner Truth (Born Isabella Baumfree) were both African American Abolitionist during the American Civil War, (1861-1865). They were both part of the “underground railroad,” helping enslaved African American runaways escape to their freedom. They daily, at the peril of their own lives cared more for the safety of others, then themselves. Harriet Taubman was nick-named the “Black Moses,” as she led hundreds escaping from the bondage of slavery to a better land in the North. Isabella Baumfree, (who renamed herself, Sojourner Truth) after working in the home of two different preachers, believed that God was calling her to declare the truth of the gospel… She spent her entire youth enslaved, and was bought and sold 4 times. She was the first former slave to sue a white slave owner and win. President Abraham Lincoln invited her to the White House and gave her an “award of commendation” for her noble work regarding the life and well-being of others.

 Queen Esther, the niece of Mordecai put her own life in jeopardy, appearing before the king unannounced, (which at that time could carry a death sentence) to expose a plot by Haman to kill Mordecai, and eradicate the Jews, (her people) thus saving thousands of lives, (See Esther Chapters 1-9 for the complete narrative).

 Rahab the harlot, risked her own life, saving the lives of the two spies whom Joshua sent to search out a way to infiltrate the citadel, and bring down the walls of Jericho, (See Joshua 2:1-15; Heb 11:31).

**What does this mean for us?**

**Obvious Signs Do Tell the Season**

 As we celebrate Mother’s Day this Sunday, May 8, 2022, we don’t have to wait another year for the month of May to come before acknowledging our loving, ever-caring, moms. Let’s also recognize every honorable woman who has directly impacted our lives in the development of our Christian Character.

**“A Virtuous Woman”**

Please read Proverbs 31:10-31

