

UNFATHERHOOD

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'Unmotherhood' was featured in the last issue, so it is fair to feature 'unfatherhood' in this issue.

There is a saying, "the fatherhood gives a man his position in history". I don't agree with it at all, for when I have read history, I haven't seen any great man whose major achievement was having a large number of children.

Let us consider the case of Daniel in the Old Testament. Daniel was chosen to serve in the king's palace when he was a teenager. In that time it meant that he became an eunuch who could not be a father. However, Daniel served as a high official through several dynasties. Not only did miracles follow him throughout his life time, but he also obtained special revelation from God. Furthermore, he was named by God as one of the three greatest prayers.

How about Paul in the New Testament? We don't know why he chose to be single, we only know that his spiritual children were numerous. Paul's position in church history is higher than any apostles'.

Some of us pay too much attention to fathering a son so he can carry on our name. What is a name? Who remembers it? In ancient times, when the family temple made a record annually, one might be embarrassed without a son under his name. The family system doesn't exist anymore but we are still controlled by its shadow. How silly it is!

I am reminded of the people around the Tower of Babel. They built the Tower of Babel because they wished to carry on their names and not be scattered over the earth. Instead, their language became confused and they were scattered even sooner. If a family is partial to the son, the same situation will happen; confused language, no communication and scattered over. The parent's injustice causes sibling jealous, hatred and rejection. Thus, the family name will be an ugly one to carry on.

Dear unfathers! Let us pay tribute to you on this Father's Day! For you have given us the image of our Heavenly Father and the role model for our youth. We are sure that you will discover many spiritual children in eternal life.

