For A Troubled Woman

Dear Culture Contrarians:

Our culture has been very cruel to women who are created in God’s image. While He made the male and female, He made them in His image. Women uniquely reflect aspects of God’s person and attributes that males do not. It is not surprise that our culture seeks to destroy gender differences, for when properly recognized, these differences bring us to our knees in grateful worship of our Creator.

It grieves our Heavenly Father when women are afflicted or forced to live elsewhere. God intended males to exercise dominion: a dominion of protection, provision, warmth, and security. Sin, however, rearranged the landscape, and the superior strength is often used for cruelty, abuse, and neglect.

God knows how you feel.

I am writing this from Grace Acres in Fort Towson, Oklahoma. A powerful storm blew through this morning at 5 a.m., shaking my trailer and me awake. It’s too dark and cold to go outside, so I stayed in and translated in Micah. Micah 4:6-7 give us an amazing insight into God’s emotions. He speaks to you from the lips of His prophet who spoke around 730 B.C., but will bring encouragement to you today.

Your encouragement comes from God’s plans for your future (my translation): “In that Day, states Yahweh, I will gather the woman who is limping, and I will not miss a single woman who has been forced to live elsewhere; *I will gather these women* whom I have caused to be afflicted. And I will cause the woman who is limping to be a remnant, and the woman who has been forced to live elsewhere to be a strong, authoritative nation and Yahweh will be King over them in the Mountain of Zion from that point and on into eternity.”

God speaks to a woman (the feminine participles are singular) who has a physical defect (limping) that makes her, in the evil eyes of the culture, less valuable. He speaks to a woman who has been forced out of her home; authority has been exercised over her and against her wishes. God says that He caused the affliction. He did. He could have created a world where evil could not have been done. He didn’t. But in the millennium and eternity you will be perfectly suited to serve the King of kings as a strong nation, graciously exercising authority (unlike how you were treated). You will be His very special remnant whom He has kept for Himself (cast away from others, He kept you for Himself).

God knows how you feel…and He loves you.

My love to you all,