

"Her children shall rise up and call her blessed." Proverbs 31:28

Hello Christian,

It is not often that a Christian can fulfill a verse of the Bible. I do it every day! My mother, Atha Jones, has been in heaven for 36 years. Not a day passes that I don't arise and call her blessed.

I bless her name in the little things and in the big things. When I eat cornbread I smile and think of ma's delicious cornbread. Her cornbread pan was bent. So the cornbread was crooked but good.

When I see a tomato I remember the week our large family ate nothing but 100 pounds of tomatoes. That was all we had. Today Child Protective Services might consider that "abuse."

Our family of 15 surviving children (out of 17) was poor. When I was a young child, ma only had one cotton print dress. It was made from a 100-pound-floursack. Each night she put on her nightgown and hand-washed that dress.

I slept on the floor or on the couch until I was in the 6th grade. And until then, I never had a new shirt or pair of pants. It was hand-me-downs and donated clothing.

Why do I praise and call my mother blessed? Because I witnessed her love and dedication to God in thousands of ways. I saw her Christian life lived out daily in faith, trust and love.

I still feel her hand on my fevered brow, praying for me to recover. I hear the prayers she uttered on her knees for the whole family.

I recall her and my dad putting in the offering plate nickel and dimes that we needed for food. Her faith reached into heaven and moved the Hand of God.

I ARISE AND CALL HER BLESSED BECAUSE SHE LEFT TO ME AN INHERITANCE OF SPIRITUAL RICHES THAT WILL OUT LAST THE HAND-ME-DOWNS AND TOMATOES.

God bless you, dear mother. Your unseen presence I feel everyday. Ma, I am ministering to homeless mothers and children because I know that a homeless mother can be rich if she has the Lord Jesus Christ.

Yours for homeless mothers and children,

Pastor Haskle P. Jones

P.S. E-mail me at Hasklejones@aol.com and tell me about your mother.

