

**Bishop George G. Bloomer**  
**Sunday, May 14, 2006**  
**Happy Mother's Day!**

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:**

**1 Kings 3:17-26**

<sup>17</sup>And the one woman said, O my lord, I and this woman dwell in one house; and I was delivered of a child with her in the house.

<sup>18</sup>And it came to pass the third day after that I was delivered, that this woman was delivered also: and we were together; there was no stranger with us in the house, save we two in the house.

<sup>19</sup>And this woman's child died in the night; because she overlaid it.

<sup>20</sup>And she arose at midnight, and took my son from beside me, while thine handmaid slept, and laid it in her bosom, and laid her dead child in my bosom.

<sup>21</sup>And when I rose in the morning to give my child suck, behold, it was dead: but when I had considered it in the morning, behold, it was not my son, which I did bear.

<sup>22</sup>And the other woman said, Nay; but the living is my son, and the dead is thy son. And this said, No; but the dead is thy son, and the living is my son. Thus they spake before the king.

<sup>23</sup>Then said the king, The one saith, This is my son that liveth, and thy son is the dead: and the other saith, Nay; but thy son is the dead, and my son is the living.

<sup>24</sup>And the king said, Bring me a sword. And they brought a sword before the king.

<sup>25</sup>And the king said, Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other.

<sup>26</sup>Then spake the woman whose the living child was unto the king, for her bowels yearned upon her son, and she said, O my lord, give her the living child, and in no wise slay it. But the other said, Let it be neither mine nor thine, but divide it.

<sup>27</sup>Then the king answered and said, Give her the living child, and in no wise slay it: she is the mother thereof.

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**2 Kings 6:24-33**

<sup>24</sup>And it came to pass after this, that Benhadad king of Syria gathered all his host, and went up, and besieged Samaria.

<sup>25</sup>And there was a great famine in Samaria: and, behold, they besieged it, until an ass's head was sold for fourscore pieces of silver, and the fourth part of a cab of dove's dung for five pieces of silver.

<sup>26</sup>And as the king of Israel was passing by upon the wall, there cried a woman unto him, saying, Help, my lord, O king.

<sup>27</sup>And he said, If the LORD do not help thee, whence shall I help thee? out of the barnfloor, or out of the winepress?

<sup>28</sup>And the king said unto her, What aileth thee? And she answered, This woman said unto me, Give thy son, that we may eat him to day, and we will eat my son to morrow.

<sup>29</sup>So we boiled my son, and did eat him: and I said unto her on the next day, Give thy son, that we may eat him: and she hath hid her son.

<sup>30</sup>And it came to pass, when the king heard the words of the woman, that he rent his clothes; and he passed by upon the wall, and the people looked, and, behold, he had sackcloth within upon his flesh.

<sup>31</sup>Then he said, God do so and more also to me, if the head of Elisha the son of Shaphat shall stand on him this day.

<sup>32</sup>But Elisha sat in his house, and the elders sat with him; and the king sent a man from before him: but ere the messenger came to him, he said to the elders, See ye how this son of a murderer hath sent

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to take away mine head? look, when the messenger cometh, shut the door, and hold him fast at the door: is not the sound of his master's feet behind him?

<sup>33</sup>And while he yet talked with them, behold, the messenger came down unto him: and he said, Behold, this evil is of the LORD; what should I wait for the LORD any longer?

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## **DON'T SUFFOCATE THE BABY!**

Did you know that when you were being born, you were being created to nurture?

### **Nurturing requires much self-sacrifice...**

Nurturing another individual may require you to be placed last when you're accustomed to being first. When paired with the right person during your sacrificial moments, the sacrifices that you make to bring life into the world ultimately bring joy. But for a woman who is forced to bear the brunt of this time single and alone, due to unplanned pregnancies and so forth, it can seem like a time of unbearable pain that further complicates the condition of her already fragile state. There are many changes that a woman goes through during the time that she's carrying life in her womb:

- Changes in her personality, mental, and emotional state.
- Some become fat, when maintaining weight has always been a priority
- Some become very vocal when they've normally operated from a very shy demeanor
- Those who've always been healthy can suddenly begin to experience health problems such as gestational diabetes, high blood pressure, low blood pressure, and are ordered to bed rest for the duration of carrying the child in the womb.

Still, though the changes can be many, that moment of joy when the baby finally arrives, makes the sacrifices and suffering all worth while.

Her journey then continues, as the next 18 years spiral her into stage after stage of endless sacrifices to lead her precious package to safety. She's often surprised and sometimes...yes...even appalled by the actions of this person whom she's carried...this once bouncing-baby-of-joy, "who-could-do-no-wrong" begins to grow and the teenage years take the mother who carried the child to a place that causes her to ask, "Do I even know this person at all." To add insult to injury the child's naivety sometimes misinterprets her nurturing for hate, and the mother is left wondering, "What is going on?" What nearly brought her to death for nine months in order to produce life is now questioning her intentions.

Mother, however, is not moved. No matter the age, the ups and downs, her memory is one that no one can take away, not even the child itself. Engraved in her mind is the child that she's grown to love beyond comprehension. To those who don't understand, her answer remains the same, "This is my baby."