

The Motherhood of God

Isaiah 66:12-13 (text: v. 13—*As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you...*)

This year we have been emphasizing the glorious truth of the love of God. In our text God likens His love for His children to a mother's love.

Most people know of the "Fatherhood of God"—Our heavenly Father (Lord's Prayer). However, God is also likened to a "mother"—"*When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up*" (Ps. 27:10).

ILLUS: of the death of my parents when I was a teenager—God has been both a "father" and a "mother" to me.

Jesus spoke of His concern and care for Jerusalem as a **mother hen** — "*...how often would I have gathered thy children together, e en a a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings...*" (Mt. 23:37).

- God created Eve, "*the mother of all living,*" therefore He knows how a mother thinks... feels... acts... and believes. Who would know more about a woman than the Creator of a woman.
- God knows what makes a woman "tick." Psalm 113:9—"*He maketh the barren woman to keep house, and to be a joyful mother of children. Praise ye the Lord.*"

Think of how a mother cares for her children, then compare how God cares for us. You will see that God is often very "mother-like." Here are **six ways God is like a mother:**

I. **Mothers COMFORT our hurts** (text).

- ➡ The context of Isaiah 66:13 is after the tribulation period when Christ returns to set up His Kingdom and rule from Jerusalem. During the tribulation Jerusalem will suffer greatly (Zech 1:12-17). When the Lord comes back, He will comfort all the pain she endured, as a mother comforts the hurts of her children.
- ➡ Difference between fathers and mothers:
 - Fathers PITY children. Psalm 103:13— "*Like as a father piteth his children, so the Lord piteth them that fear him.*"

- Mothers COMFORT their children (text). A mother is a ministering angel in times of pain and sorrow. She knows the art of comforting better than a man. [Bruises... Skinned knee or elbow... stubbed toe].
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- E. God will teach and you from this Bible. This is where you really get to know Him (John 5:39).

III. Mothers use **SIMPLICITY** of instruction.

- A. Children need simplicity—They need milk. Mother's provide milk.
- B. God knows His children need "milk" (1 Peter 2:2). Average word in a King James Bible is five letters long—One and two syllable words.
- C. *"...the simplicity that is in Christ"* (2 Cor. 11:3). Simplicity of salvation (Like passing through a door... like looking at at a serpent on a pole...)

IV. Mothers have **PATIENCE** with an **erring child** (Isa. 49:14-15).

- ➡ Ever notice that there are more women teachers in elementary school than men? They need more patience with younger children than most men have.

- A. Nothing quite like a mother's unfailing love for a lost child.

ILLUS: Son who is a murderer.

- B. A godly mother will never cease praying for her children regardless of what their condition or circumstance might be.
- *"Can a woman forget her sucking child? ... Yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee"* (Isa. 49:15).
 - *"The Lord...is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."* (2 Pet. 3:9).

- C. Thank God for His patience when we mess-up.

V. Mothers **GIVE LIFE** through **great pain** (Gen. 3:16)

- ➡ **ILLUS.** Barb giving birth.

- A. Why there is pain in child birth — Sin. That is why Jesus had to go through pain and suffering to provide the new birth.
- B. A mother enters the jaws of death to give birth, so Jesus died that might have the new birth.

- C. John 16:21 — After a baby is born and placed in the mother's arms, the pain is overcome by the joy of the new born baby. Likewise, joy came AFTER the cross (Heb. 12:2).

VI. Mothers know how to put their children to SLEEP (Acts 7:60).

➡ Moms do better rocking a baby to sleep than dads.

A. God is His child when he goes to sleep (Ps. 23:1-4).

B. ILLUS of mom with me through the nightmare. "Mama, Daddy."
(Third time my mother stayed with me until I was asleep).

SUMMATION: As your mother suffered great pain to give you life and bring you into this world, Jesus suffered the great pain of the cross to give you eternal life and bring you into His Kingdom.

- Have you trusted Him as your Savior?
- When it comes time to go cross the valley of the shadow of death, will He be with you as YOUR Shepherd?