

GOD'S MATERNAL SIDE
TOPICAL / 5-10-20 / MOTHER'S DAY / FACEBOOK

INTRODUCTION

- A. Boris Johnson, Britain's Prime Minister, recently advised the United Kingdom to avoid visiting their parents on Mother's Day to help stop the spread of the Coronavirus.

- B. Mother's Day this year looks different due to Covid-19.
 - 1. There will be few people who risk exposing their mothers to the virus with a personal visit.
 - 2. More cards, flowers and gifts were bought online than ever before.
 - 3. Mother's Day is second only to Easter in the size of church attendance, but not this year.

- C. Since Mother's Day is different this year, I chose to share a different kind of message.
 - 1. Did you know that the Bible tells us God loves us like a mother loves her children?
 - 2. Our concept of God is a masculine one. God is our "Father" and "King".
 - 3. Although the Bible is written from a patriarchal point of view, there are a few verses that make use of feminine metaphors to describe God.
 - 4. This doesn't mean we should call God "Our mother who art in heaven". Just that God possesses some of the same character traits as women do.
 - 5. Strictly speaking, God is neither male nor female, but is gender neutral according to John 4:24.

John 4:24
God is spirit...

- 6. So what are some of God's maternal instincts that speak to us today?

I. FIRST, GOD IS LIKE A MOTHER BIRD.

- A. In the book of Ruth, we learn that God keeps us safe—Ruth 2:12.

Ruth 2:12
"May you be richly rewarded by the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge."

- B. In Deut. we learn that God catches us lest we fall—Deut. 32:11.

Deuteronomy 32:11

Like an eagle that stirs up its nest and hovers over its young, that spreads its wings to catch them and carries them aloft.

- C. In Psalms we see that God provides refuge during times of disaster—Psa. 57:1.

Psalm 57:1

I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed.

II. SECOND, GOD IS LIKE A MOMMA BEAR.

- A. We're told there are few animals fiercer than a momma bear protecting her cubs.

- B. Likewise, in Hosea we learn that God protects us in the same way—Hosea 13:8.

Hosea 13:8

Like a bear robbed of her cubs, I will attack them and rip them open...

III. THIRD, GOD IS LIKE A HUMAN MOTHER.

- A. In Isaiah we learn that God never forgets us—Isaiah 49:15.

Isaiah 49:15

“Can a mother forget her baby and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you!

- B. Also in Isaiah we learn that God comforts us—Isaiah 66:13.

Isaiah 66:13

As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you...

CONCLUSION

- A. It's often said there is nothing like a mother's love.

- B. As strong as that is, God's love is stronger still—Jeremiah 31:3.

Jeremiah 31:3

“I have loved you with an everlasting love...

- C. Jesus used the metaphor of a mother hen longing to comfort her chicks but some refused—Matthew 23:37.

Matthew 23:37

“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing.

1. You would never reject your mother’s love.
2. By all means let’s not be guilty of rejecting God’s love either—John 3:16.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.