

# The Christ-Like Mother

1 Kings 3:16 – 28

## I. Intro

- A. May seem odd to use text for Mother's Day
- B. 3 Characteristics/Traits for Christ-like Mom

## II. 1 – Puts Her Life & Family in Care of King of kings (**READ v. 16 – 22**)

- A. 2 prostitutes – however, they were moms
  - i. Each has a child; both born within a few days of each other; 1 child dies by accidental suffocation by mother laying on it
  - ii. Mother, whose child dies, swaps dead child for live child while other mother is asleep
  - iii. Other mom eventually wakes up and realizes the dead child next to her is not hers and the live child next to the first mom is hers – children have been swapped
  - iv. They argue – dead child's mom denies making the swap – moms come before King Solomon for resolution – this initiated by the mom of the live child because she certainly wants her real child back
- B. What cannot be solved by mere human wisdom is turned over to kingly wisdom
  - i. **Question:** Remember, where did King Solomon's wisdom come from? God
  - ii. **READ v. 7 - 12**
- C. Only way parents (moms and dads) to raise children and family today is by seeking after and following Godly wisdom; it's putting our lives and lives of family (spouses, children, grandchildren) in care of Heavenly King
- D. **Question:** How is this Christ-like? Jesus' life was all about complete devotion, commitment to doing His Father's will
  - i. Times Jesus made statements about doing His Father's will
    - a) **Matthew 6:10 (NIV):** Jesus' example prayer  
<sup>10</sup> your kingdom come, **your will be done** on earth as it is in heaven.
    - b) **Matthew 26:39 (NIV):** Prayer in garden before arrest  
<sup>39</sup> ... "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet **not as I will, but as you will.**"; **Matthew 26:42 (NIV):** second time  
<sup>42</sup> ... "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, **may your will be done.**"
    - c) **John 15:10-11 (NIV)**  
<sup>10</sup> If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, **just as I have**

obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. (Then Jesus said ...)

<sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

- ii. A Christ-like mother is putting her life, and her family, in care of King Jesus and surrendering to will of her Heavenly Father

### III. 2 – Puts Others Needs Above Her Own (Complete

#### Unselfishness – READ v. 23 – 26)

- A. Both moms arguing before King Solomon on whose child is whose
  - i. Solomon's decision: split the child in half, give one half to each woman
  - ii. Each mom's true nature, true heart, true motive is revealed
  - iii. v. 26a: Mom of live child is *filled with compassion for her son*; great sacrifice she's willing to make – *give her the living baby*
- B. Not specifically told of reasons why the mom of the dead child swaps the babies, but certainly selfishness played a role
- C. See the complete unselfishness, the true heart, of the living child's mom; essentially putting dead child's mom's needs above her own – even though absolutely undeserved
- D. v. 26b: Compare to the true heart of the mom of the dead child: *Neither I nor you shall have him. Cut him in two!* (exclamation point) – utter selfishness - “If I can't have ... you can't have.”
  - i. Attitude in many families/people today; attitude typical in our nation, world today
  - ii. Idea of everyone having “fair share” - *if I can't have, then you can't have* – instead of having “fair opportunity”
- E. **Question:** How is this Christ-like? All Jesus' life seen in gospels was about serving – everyone else's needs above His own even though others were absolutely undeserving
  - i. Jesus' greatest example of unselfishness – on the cross
  - ii. Luke 23:34 (NIV): Jesus' forgiveness of those having him crucified
    - <sup>34</sup> Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”
  - iii. Luke 23:42-43 (NIV): Even forgiveness for one who deserved punishment of death
    - <sup>42</sup> Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”
    - <sup>43</sup> Jesus answered him, “I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.”
- F. A Christ-like mother puts needs of others above her own – whether it's needs of family or complete strangers – even though may be undeserving

#### **IV. 3 – Puts Love Above Self (READ v. 27 – 28)**

- A. Because of the unselfishness of living child's mom; completely willing to sacrifice her own happiness and rightful justification – the king rewards her with what's been taken from her – her child**
- B. Question: How is this Christ-like? Just look at the cross and tremendous sacrifice Jesus made for sinful man and the love He showed**
  - i. 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 (NIV)**
    - <sup>14</sup> For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.
    - <sup>15</sup> And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.
  - ii. 1 John 2:1-2 (NIV)**
    - <sup>1</sup> ... if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense--Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.
    - <sup>2</sup> He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

#### **V. Close**

- A. A Christ-like mother: her life and family in care of the King of kings**
- B. A Christ-like mother: puts others needs above her own – family, friend, or stranger – completely unselfish**
- C. A Christ-like mother: puts love and sacrifice above self**
- D. These same points also apply to anyone who professes to know Christ as Lord and Savior**
- E. Today, think of your mom/wife/woman who raised you, either met/meets these 3 characteristics, you need to be giving thanks/praising the Lord for her today**
- F. Parents, Grandparents, soon-to-be or hope-to-be parents, put your life/family in care of King Jesus; put other's needs above your own whether they deserve it or not; put love and sacrifice above self**