### 上帝的母親形象

### God as A Mother:

The Biblical Imagery of God's Motherhood

關於聖經意象(類比和隱喻)的兩點重要說明:

Two Important Notes about Biblical Imagery (Analogy and Metaphor)

- 1. 當我們用類比說「上帝像母親」時,我們是按照認知的順序。我們從下至上,通過人類母性的知識來理解神的母親形象。我們從熟悉和已知的領域往上移動到不熟悉和未知的領域。我們要記得我們用人類的語言來談論和理解神的母親形象,但人類的經驗並不定義和塑造神的母性。
- 1. When we say analogically, "God is like a mother," we are following the order of knowing. We work our way UP through the knowledge of human motherhood to understand divine motherhood. We move from the familiar and known to the unfamiliar and unknown. We must keep in mind that we speak and understand God's motherhood in human terms, but human experience does NOT define and shape God's motherhood.

- 2. 按照存在的順序,我們說「母親像上帝」。我們乃是 從上至下,讓上帝神聖完美的母性來救贖我們人類有缺 陷的母性。我們從神聖的真實走向人類的現實。我們承 認上帝的母性是我們一直追求但同時又永遠無法完全實 現的理想。在這種情況下,過程是一切,不是終點。
- 2. In the order of being, we say "Mother is like God." We work our way DOWN by allowing the divine reality of God's perfect motherhood to redeem our flawed human motherhood. We move from the divine reality to the human reality. We admit that God's motherhood is the ideal we pursue but will never fully attain. In this case, journey, not destination, is all that matters.

# 1. A Laboring Female Warrior in the Battlefield 戰場上生產中的女戰士

- 13 耶和华必像勇士出去,必像战士激动热心,要喊叫,大声呐喊,要用大力攻击仇敌。14 我许久闭口不言,静默不语;现在我要喊叫像产难的妇人,我要急气而喘哮。(賽 42:13–14)
- 13 The Lord goes out like a mighty man, like a man of war he stirs up his zeal; he cries out, he shouts aloud, he shows himself mighty against his foes. 14 For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor. (Is 42:13–14, ESV)



Wonder Woman 神奇女俠

Source: https://theconversation.com

#### 2. A Mother Gently Comforting her Child 溫柔安慰孩子的母亲

母亲怎样安慰儿子,我就照样安慰你们。(賽66:13a)

As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you (Is 66:13a, ESV)

## 3. A Mother Never Forgetting her Child 永不忘記孩子的母親

- 14 锡安说: "耶和华离弃了我,主忘记了我。" 15 "妇人焉能忘记她吃奶的婴孩,不怜恤她所生的儿子?即或有忘记的,我却不忘记你。(賽49:14-15)
- <sup>14</sup> But Zion said, "The Lord has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me." <sup>15</sup> "Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. (Is 49:14–15, ESV)

## 結束禱告 Closing Prayer

A Prayer from Dorothy M. Stewart

亲爱的上帝,我們有那么多不同類型的母亲在用她们的爱和关怀來祝福我们:

Dear Lord, there are so many kinds of mothers who have blessed us with their love and care:

我们的亲生母亲,她们以各种方式孕育我们、为我们操劳,无论我们現在是多大年纪,她们在我们心中永远占据着特殊的位置;

Our own birth-mothers who carried us and labored for us in so many ways, and no matter how old we may be will always have a special place in our hearts;

我们的养母和继母,她们收拾残局的任务并不容易,她们的成功也因所付出的努力显得更加光荣。

Foster-mothers, adoptive mothers, and stepmothers whose task of picking up the pieces is not easy and whose successes are the more glorious for the effort involved;

我们、培育我们、鼓励我们、指导我们。 and all the other strong and holy and loving women

還有所有其他坚强、聖潔、充满爱心的女性,她们教导

and all the other strong and holy and loving womer who have taught us and nurtured us, encouraged us and guided us.

父神,感谢你賜给我们如此多母爱。願你祝福那些用她們的生命來祝福我们的人,愿我们也成為他人生命中的祝福。奉主的名,阿门。

Thank you, Father God, for all the mothering we have received. Bless all whose lives have blessed ours and may we, in our turn, bless the lives of others. In the Lord's name. Amen.