



# the TIE THAT BINDS

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## **A Mother's Love Demonstrated on a Hill**

*by Jeanne Jordan*

**II Samuel 21**

The Gibeonites were people who lived in the land of Canaan when Joshua was leading the children of Israel. They had deceived Joshua about their identity and Joshua made an oath with them and promised them safety. When Saul was king, in his zeal, he decided to kill all the Gibeonites and therefore broke the oath made with God by Joshua. Years later, during King David's reign, there was a famine in the land. God revealed to David that it was punishment for the sin of King Saul killing the Gibeonites. David went to the Gibeonites and asked them what would satisfy or recompense for the suffering of their people. Their answer: seven sons of King Saul must be turned over to the Gibeonites for the murder of their people. The Gibeonites took these seven sons to Gibeon and hanged them. According to law, they had to hang there without anyone removing their bodies until their bodies had rotted and decayed. This would take months. Their bodies were exposed to the wild beasts and vultures of the land. The mother of two of these boys decided that she was not going to allow that to happen. Her name was Rizpah.

What happened on that hill where their bodies were left to rot forms one of the most moving episodes in the Bible. Rizpah went to the place where her sons were hanged. She spread a cloth upon the rocks and stayed there for at least four months. In the heat of the day, she would take rags and run the birds off to keep them away from her sons bodies. At night, wolves and wild beast would come and smell the decaying flesh and she would not allow them to touch the bodies of her sons.

Word of this finally reached King David and he said, "forget the law. Bring their bodies back and were going to bury them like royalty."

Why would God include such a story in His Word? I think He intends for us to have our hearts stirred about the devotion of motherhood. He wants us to see something of the passion of this woman's heart for her children. When we think about her love, it causes us to think about a greater love than hers, the love of our precious Savior who died on Calvary.

Look again at that lonely hill on which the bodies of Saul's son were left to rot. Why were they there? Did they sin? The truth of the matter is, they were dying for the sins of their father.

Today it's fashionable for children to blame all their problems on their parents. All problems should not be blamed on Mom on Dad, but there are many children who do suffer through life because of the sins of their selfish parents. Parents, be careful. Our lack of love for Jesus Christ shows. Any secret sin we may have or our lack of devotion to His Word and the church will some day show up in the lives of our children.

These seven sons were there because the Gibeonites wanted revenge. They did not care about who they hurt. They did not care about Rizpah. How much suffering there is in the world because of people who want to get even. How many times a heart is broken because someone wants to get back at someone. There's no place in the Christian's life for a get-even, get-back spirit. Being willing to forgive someone forfeits our right to revenge. May God give us the grace and faith

to leave things in the hand of the Lord.

The Gibeonites wanted revenge but what about Rizpah? What about this amazing picture of motherhood? There has been many a boy changed because of Mother's love. There has been many a girl reached through Mommy and Daddy loving them.

C.T Studd, the great missionary, said when he left in a rage one day, never to serve God, that his father tried to reason with him and to use logic on him. Studd said, "It was easy for me to escape my father's logic." But he said, "All my mother did was stand there and weep. So help me God, I could never escape my mother's tears. They brought me to the Lord."

When I think about Rizpah and I think about how much she loved those boys to stay out there month after month, day after day, fighting off animals, beating back birds, enduring the unpleasant living conditions on a rock, I think about a greater love that cares for me today. It is the love of Jesus Christ. Like Rizpah, He sets up a vigil for me and beats back the enemies of this world so I don't have to suffer for my sins or even my parent's sins. In fact, He paid for all the sins of mankind so no one would be the object of sin's retribution.

Jesus Christ came from heaven's glory, paid our sin debt on the cross, bore the awful weight of our sin, suffered, bled, and died for us. He took the revenge on that cross so that the holiness of God could be satisfied and we could be saved. Through this story of a mother's love, I pray that today you will respond to the love of Jesus Christ.

## Mother's Day *by Pastor Jordan*

All of us celebrate this day by looking back at the wonderful times we had with our mothers. Seldom does a harsh memory come to us while reminiscing about the one who gave so much of her life for our happiness. My mother is just that, a memory. She went to heaven several years ago, an experience many of us have gone through, and I miss sharing the joys of my life with her. For some reason it seemed like she would always listen and act like what you had to say was important. There is nothing like a mother to understand, sympathize,

emphasize, comfort those she brought into this earthly kingdom. She would have been the one most proud of her great-grandchildren and the biggest encouragement to her grandchildren. You see, moms love us unconditionally as the Lord does. Only difference is you can put one over on mom but the Lord knows everything we do or think. Yet He still loves us. What A wonderful God! Yes, I miss my mom and wish I could buy her a card, give her a big hug or share a story about her grandchildren. OK, tell her a story about what great thing I

have done. That can't be done, she has left never to be seen again until we reach the other side. Some of you are lucky. You still have your mom to see and hold. Don't pass up this opportunity to let her know how much you appreciate what she has done for you. Trust me you don't have much time left to enjoy your earthly time together. You better love her NOW. Forgive her NOW. Give her the gift of kindness NOW. Be nice to her now. There's coming a time when you'll wish you did! Like the old song says "You never miss

the water till the well runs dry." Only so many Mothers days left. God Bless.



## Encouragement During Suffering *By Glynis Pollak*

Everyone has their share of troubles and trials. But, have you ever wondered why some people suffer more than others?

While one of my dearest friends continued to suffer through a devastating trial, another friend was struggling over which Christian college to send her child to.

Why? Why must one person endure *so much* while another person – by comparison- has it so easy? Although we may not know or understand the "why" behind the suffering, we can trust that God is not letting us go through these trials without reason. Let's look at Ezekiel 14: 23. **"And they shall comfort you, when ye see their ways and their doings: and ye shall know that I have not done without cause all that I have done in it, saith the Lord GOD."**

Not only is there a *reason* for your suffering, but depending upon the circumstances of the trial, it could be that you have been *appointed* to this suffering. I Thess. 3:3 **"That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto."**

Appointed to suffer? But, why? Why suffer if we did nothing amiss to bring these troubles upon ourselves? The quick answer would be that anyone who's ever gone through trials knows how these testings can build and strengthen our faith and grow us closer to Christ. But, let's also consider, as I Peter 4:12-14 tells us, that when we are in the midst of a fiery trial, we are actually partaking of Christ's sufferings; and we have the *privilege* of having the spirit of glory and of God resting upon us. Now, that phrase "spirit of glory" sounds like a pretty deep theological well to me! Suffice it to say that God will help us to glorify Him through our fiery trials.

However, rejoicing during tribulation is not an easy thing to do! We lose track of what's really going on, and when we're in the thick of the battle, it's hard to remember that God has a reason and a purpose for everything that is happening. We also seem to forget that the Christian life is a constant battle between good and evil. Remember who our adversary is? (see I Peter 5:8) Therefore, in II Tim.

2:3 we are commanded to **"endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."**

Now, enduring hardness, partaking of Christ's sufferings, and glorifying God through afflictions doesn't mean that our heart is light and joyful and we're never sad. On the contrary, our hearts *do break* at times, and it's all we can do to put a smile on our face, go to church, worship the Lord, and be an encouragement to others! God doesn't expect us to be bulwarks of joy unspeakable during these times. David cried all night (Ps. 6:6) and sought the Lord (Ps. 77:2) on many occasions.

The good news is that God *does* hear us, and He will bring us through. God can do anything (Job 42:2) and nothing is too hard for Him (Jer. 32: 17 & 27)! He also will heal us (Ps. 147:3) and rebuild us (Acts 15:16). God strengthens us, encourages us, and reminds us that compared to the "eternal weight of glory" our afflictions are "light" and only temporary (II Cor. 4:17). Praise God!

It's so important to remember

that you are not suffering needlessly. There is a reason you have this appointment. Glorify God through it, cry unto the Lord, and let Him hold you in His everlasting arms (Deut. 33:27).

**"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."** Matthew 11: 28-30



## Try The Jesus Perfume

*“Christ...hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour.”*

I want to tell you how you can be a sweet-smelling savour (fragrance or scent) to God. And not only to God, but to all those with whom you come in contact with. This scent is achieved without putting on perfume, body lotion, body spray, or mouthwash. This scent is far above human

senses. This scent will bring you peace that passes all understanding. It will give you joy unspeakable and a life more abundant that offers contentment under all circumstances. Most importantly, this scent offers eternal life in heaven. The scent I'm talking about is the strongest smelling perfume in the world. It's the best perfume one could ever buy, yet it's free! I call it the **JESUS**

**PERFUME**. Funny name you say, but why not? Hollywood names perfumes, strictly for profit, after themselves: J-LO, Brittany, Paris, Celine, Mary Kate and Ashley. I got the Jesus perfume in 1975. Prior to that I was wearing cheap imitations. My cheap imitation wasn't doing much for me. The Bible compared my perfume scent to that of a filthy rag. Have you ever smelled a dirty dish rag in

your sink before it dried out? What a foul odor! That's what I was to God. As corny as it may sound, I want to offer you the Jesus Perfume. It's not a religion that you have to endure, but a relationship with Jesus which you will enjoy. If you already have this perfume - Share it with someone else. **To receive the Jesus Perfume go to [lighthousebaptist.com](http://lighthousebaptist.com) and click on 'Salvation Plan'.**

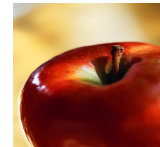
## Personal Testimonies *by Pastor Doug Jordan*

Personal testimonies always stir emotions. When real people share their actual experience with Jesus it is always powerful and moving! More than any sermon, your personal appeal has an impact. Research bears this out. Stats shows that three fourths of all new church members in this country made that decision because a friend or family member invited them to come. In the fastest growing churches the stat is closer to ninety percent! All these people came to church because basically, a person like you, an "invitational evangelist" said, "Jesus has changed my life. Come to church with me and hear how He can change yours as well." That's the way it is with testimonials given by real people. Other real people pay attention to them which is why we see so many TV commercials filled with testimonials. You know what I'm talking about. A woman stands at her washing machine and says, "I'm a mom like you and my kids get grass-stains on all their clothes just like your kids do. Nothing I tried would get the stains out until I found 'All-Temperature Spout'." Mom's with laundry baskets full of grass-stained jeans listen and then run out to the local store to get their own supply of 'All-Temperature Spout'. They do

this because people identify with the testimonies of other people. This principle is why we like to read biographies more than essays. It's why most people remember the illustrations, the real-life stories in a sermon, longer than they do the sermon itself. People can identify with something that really happened to a fellow human being. There were two college girls who were invited to give their testimonies at their home church when they were home for Christmas break. The first girl gave a beautifully prepared and well-delivered speech. It would have gotten a high grade in any speech class. You could see people smiling their approval and making a mental note to put her on that list of people who are often called on to give devotionals. The second girl was obviously shaken a bit by having to follow so polished a performance, and, she had no reason to be. She said, "I must have misread the pastor's instructions. I didn't know I was to give a speech I'm not prepared to do that. But I do want to tell you of a wonderful experience I had learning to pray as a freshman in college." Every member of that congregation perked up a bit. Their interest was obvious because while the first girl had shared a speech, this girl was going to share something of

herself. Someone put it this way: "The skeptic may stop his ears to the presentations of a preacher and the pleadings of an evangelist, but he is somehow attracted to the human-interest story of how you, John Q. Public, found peace within." So remember that when you share how Jesus changed your life, other people will listen even more than they will listen to me because it's easier for them to identify with you! Sermons are great. I love to preach and to hear sermons preached to me but you won't hear many preachers say this: sometimes I think the world has been preached to death. What this lost world of ours really needs is not more sermons, but more testimonies based on real-life experiences. No sermon, no matter how bad its preacher, will ever take the place of a well-prepared personal testimony. This is because the most convincing unanswerable arguments on earth regarding Christianity are one's personal experience with Jesus. Have you allowed God to be at His best in your life? Does your testimony show? Does the way you live your life make people hopeful that God could do the same for them?

## Apples of Gold



Who is wise? He that learns from everyone.  
Who is powerful? He that governs his passions.  
Who is rich? He that is content.

It is easy to be pleasant  
When life flows like a song.  
But the man worth while is one who will smile,  
When everything goes dead wrong.  
For the test of the heart is trouble,  
And it always comes with the years,  
And the smile that is worth the praises of earth,  
Is the smile that shines through the tears.

If you want to be happy,  
Begin where you are,  
Don't wait for some rapture  
That's future and far.  
Begin to be joyous,  
Begin to be glad  
And you'll soon forget  
That you ever were sad.



## Motherhood Statistics

### 4.0 million

[Number of women who have babies each year.](#) Of this number, about 425,000 are teens ages 15 to 19, and more than 100,000 are age 40 or over.

**25.1**  
[Average age of women when they give birth for the first time](#) - a record high. The average age has risen nearly four years since 1970.

**40%**  
[Percentage of births that are the mother's first](#). Another 32 percent are the second-born; 17 percent, third; and 11 percent, fourth or more.

### 1-in-32

[The odds of a woman delivering twins](#)  
Her odds of having triplets or other multiple births was approximately 1-in-540.

**68%**  
[Percentage of women in Mississippi, ages 15 to 44, who are mothers.](#) This is among the highest rates among states. The national average is 56 percent.

### August

[The most popular month in which to have a baby](#) with 359,000 births taking place that month in 2007. July, with 358,000, was just a shade behind.

### Tuesday

[The most popular day of the week in which to have a baby](#) with an average of almost 13,000 births taking place on Tuesdays during 2007.

### 10 million

[The number of single mothers](#) living with children under 18 years old, up from 3 million in 1970.

### 82.5 million

[Estimated number of mothers of all ages](#) in the United States

**61% (breakfast) and 81% (dinner)**

[Percentages of children younger than 6 living with married parents who eat breakfast and dinner](#), respectively, with their mother every day. The corresponding percentages who eat with their father were 30 percent and 64 percent.

### More than 152 million

[Number of Mother's Day cards expected to be given](#) this year in the United States, making Mother's Day the third-largest card-sending occasion.

### 41%

[Married women with children working full-time.](#) Less than 25% worked full-time in the 1960's.



## The Tie That Binds

### PARENTING 101 by John Rosemond from "Bottom Line Personal"

1.  
PAY MORE ATTENTION TO YOUR MARRIAGE—OR TO YOURSELF IF YOU'RE A SINGLE PARENT—THAN YOU DO TO THE CHILDREN.

Your marriage, if it is strong and satisfying, will give your children more security than any amount of attention. If you are single, your sense of self-respect and fulfillment as a person can act as the same anchor for children.

2.  
EXPECT YOUR CHILDREN TO OBEY.

Don't apologize for decisions you make in their lives. Children need powerful parents upon whom they can count to be authoritative, decisive, and trustworthy. *You* are in charge of the children.

3.  
NURTURE YOUR CHILDREN'S RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THIS STRUCTURE.

Allow them to make choices, and let them know that they must accept the outcomes. From an early age, expect them to make regular, tangible contributions to the family. That means chores they don't get paid for. And it means letting your children take responsibility for their own actions.

4.  
SAY NO AND SAY IT OFTEN.

If the response is a tantrum, so be it. Exposure to frustration prepares children for the realities of adulthood and gives them a tolerance of frustration that eventually develops perseverance—a key ingredient to every success story. Your obligation is not to make your children happy, but to give them the skills to pursue happiness on their own.

5.  
WHERE TOYS ARE CONCERNED, LESS IS MORE.

Having too many toys destroys a young child's ability to make creative decisions. If a youngster has too many potions, he becomes overwhelmed and can't decide what to play with.

6.  
TURN OFF THE TUBE.

Preschool children need to play so they can develop basic competency skills, learned by touching and exposing their environment. Nothing happens when a child sits passively in front of a television screen.

7.  
DON'T BE INTIMIDATED BY THE EXPERTS.

Use suggestions and ideas that make sense to you, but remember that all parents make mistakes now and then...and children aren't permanently scarred by it. Raise your children "in the fear and admonition of the Lord," and enjoy it.

### Ladies Summer Bible Study

## Seasons of a Woman's Heart

We all go through different seasons of life....  
"if you give up when it's winter, you will miss the promise  
of your spring, the beauty of your summer and  
the fulfillment of your fall"

Come join us as we study what God's Word says about seasons~  
Meets at 6:30 pm on Monday nights in Room 203  
during the months of June and July. Informal and interactive!  
Begins on June 2nd, ends on July 28th.

### What to bring:

Bible, 3 ring binder for handouts, and a snack to share  
(Childcare is not provided)

Call Melissa Northcutt to register - 461-5561, ext 138

