

Our Maternal God? (Matthew 23.37)

I. Introduction —

- A. God is our Father (e.g. Matthew 6.9; Luke 11.2), _____ times in the New Testament.
- B. The Bible never uses the feminine gender (noun or pronoun) for God...
- C. But that does not preclude *maternal* imagery... (cf. 1 Thessalonians 2.7)

II. Maternal images of God —

A. “*the way a _____ gathers her _____ under her _____*”
(Matthew 23.37; cf. Luke 13.34)

- 1. A picture of _____
- 2. Imagery used by David... (Psalm 17.8; 36.7; 57.1; 61.4; 63.7; cf. 91.4; Ruth 2.12)

B. *Like a human mother...*

- 1. God will not _____ . (Isaiah 49.14)
- 2. God will give _____ . (Isaiah 66.13)

C. “*like a _____ of her _____*” (Hosea 13.8)

- 1. A picture of _____
- 2. cf. Exodus 20.5; Deuteronomy 4.23-24; 2 Corinthians 11.2

III. Conclusion —

- A. These images *do not* change the gender of God — He is our Father...
- B. But these inspired images *do* tell us more about Him...
- C. So how will we respond to our _____,
_____ God?