Are You My Mother?

(2 Kings 11:1-3)

- Introduction: 1. Probably most of us have read or have had read to us the book by P.D. Eastman entitled, "Are You My Mother."
 - 2. It was about a little bird in search of his mother.
 - 3. The little bird finds many possibilities, but held out until he found his true mother.
 - 4. In contrast, to this book which had the offspring searching for its mother, today we live in a time when there are "mothers" searching for our children.
 - 5. And the question is, "Who will find our children first?"

I. Who Will Get The Child: Jehosheba Or Athaliah?

- A. (2 Kings 11:1-3).
- B. Ahab and Jezebel arrange the marriage of their daughter, Athaliah to Jehoram, son of Jehoshaphat.
 - 1. This wasn't a marriage made in heaven.
 - 2. Athaliah convinced her husband to kill all his brothers so her son would be heir to the throne, as well as all her grandchildren so she could have the throne.
- C. But a godly woman, Jehosheba stole into the palace nursery, took Joash, and hid him for six years till he was presented and proclaimed King.

II. Applications From This Historical Account

- A. Athaliah and Jehosheba can be seen as shadows of good and evil, and their desire for our children.
- B. If we are to save our children, we must get to them first.
- D. God has given parents a stewardship of raising a child.
 - 1. (Ephesians 6:4).
 - 2. (Colossians 3:21).
- E. The training of children is also a responsibility of the church.
 - Jehosheba risked her life for a child that was not her own. Will you take some risks for the spiritual development of children who are not your own?
 - 2. (1 Timothy 3:15).
 - 3. (Acts 20:35).

Conclusion:

- 1. If Jehosheba doesn't get them, Athaliah will.
- 2. We are thankful for the homes represented here who have taken their responsibility seriously.
- 3. We are also thankful for the church and all it is investing in helping our families to insure the safety and best interest of our children.