

BELIEVERS INTERNATIONAL

MAY, 2003

NEWS

Can there be a stronger, more enduring love on earth than that of a mother's love for her child?

The world takes one day a year to honor mothers, but Brother Branham believed that Mother's Day, like Easter, should be observed every day. "Mother is so great," he told us. "She is the first one to pat you, and to love you, and to coo over you, in this life, is your mother. Now, I think that there is not enough honor that we could give to a mother."¹

Motherhood was memorialized by the Romans and Greeks hundreds of years before the birth of Christ. In 18th century England, Mothering Sunday was celebrated on the fourth Sunday in Lent, when children would gather violets and other wild flowers from the hedgerows and present them, along with a cake, to their mothers. But it was not until 1910 that the first official Mother's Day was held in the United States, in West Virginia. On May 9, 1914, then President Woodrow Wilson officially set aside the second Sunday in May as the day when we would proclaim "a public expression of our love and reverence for the mothers of our country."

"She openeth her mouth with wisdom, and in her tongue is the law of kindness."

PROVERBS 31:26

There is probably nothing that makes a more permanent impression upon a person's life than the one made by a mother. What a wonderful gift God has placed within the grasp of a woman – the ability to be a life-bearer, entrusted with His creation.

Throughout history, there have been many examples of mothers whose commitment and influence have shaped the events of the world, and the course of history. Sarah was the mother of many nations. Jochebed knew that her son, Moses,



was born for a purpose, and she was Christ on display to him, while raising him in Pharaoh's palace. Hannah prayed for a child, then turned him over to the Lord for His service.

Brother Branham praised Susanna Wesley (left) as being a great mother. "She took from two to three hours a day, in all of her busy schedule, to read the Gospel and pray for her children. What happened? She had a John and a Charles out of there that turned the world upside down."²

"I learned more about Christianity from my mother than from all the theologians of England."

JOHN WESLEY

Mothers

by Angel Smith

In this generation, there is an even greater need for a mother to give her time to her children. The influence of the world becomes more and more aggressive with each passing day. But to real mothers, God has given a gift that makes a child listen to her, and go to her for consolation when hurt. And from her, they will receive the training they need in order to fulfill the plan that God has for their life.

"Do you realize, Lady, that just about twenty years of your life that you have, that God's allotted to you, that you're going to be able to do this great duty for God? Do you know your child might be a modern Finney, or something like that? Do you realize that just about twenty years of your life is as long as you'll be able to raise children? And all through the eternities you'll enjoy the blessing of God if you bring a child into this world and raise it right. That star that's shining yonder in Glory, you'll be associated with it."³ *continued on last page...*

"No man is poor who had a godly mother."

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

PERU: UPDATE

In the April, 2002 issue of *Believers News*, we introduced you to Brother Luis Angel of Lima, Peru. With him, we visited many of the churches in that country, distributing clothing and financial support in the areas of greatest need. This year, when disaster struck, we were privileged to be able to help them once again.

In late January, the southern portion of Peru, specifically in the area around Lake Titicaca, was hit with very heavy rains – the worst in recent history. One of the local pastors called Brother Luis Angel and reported that many believers were without food. Livestock (their only source of income) was starving as well, and most crops were under water. Immediately, Brother Luis passed along this information to us.

At 12,500 feet altitude, Lake Titicaca in the southern tip of Peru is the highest navigable lake in the world, and the largest lake in South America. In the rocky land that forms its shoreline, the people grow potatoes and herd llama and alpaca at altitudes that leave visitors gasping for air. They are descendents of the most ancient peoples of the Americas, and



among the poorest in all Peru. Even under normal circumstances, life is challenging for the believers of this area. Under adverse conditions (such as the present flooding) the fragile distance between survival and starvation can be quickly and severely compromised. We knew that immediate action was called for.

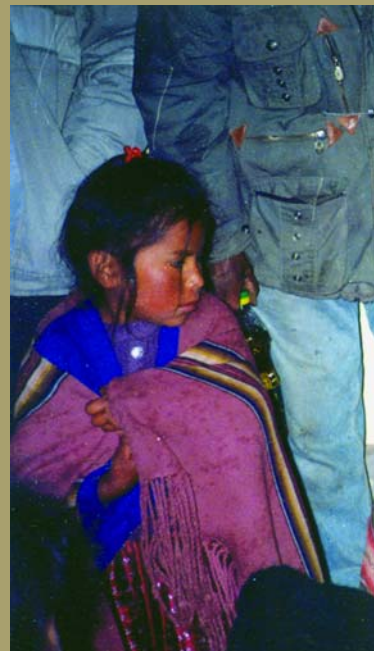
We notified Brother Luis that we would be sending funds to help the believers through this emergency, and he began preparing for the difficult journey he would need to make in order to purchase and deliver the needed supplies. He would first travel by plane to Puno, a large city at the edge of Lake Titicaca, then by bus to the various churches in the area.

These photos were taken by Brother Luis at the many places he visited, and the text is from the e-mails he was able to send us along the way. Although we do not know the names of the believers that are pictured here, the appreciation that we see reflected in their faces is something that we wanted to share with you. It was your offerings that made this effort possible. Some of the clothing that you donated last year was also for the saints living in this area.

Brother Luis:

We are filling bags for the believers in Puno. Today several of the local churches in Lima came by with items they are donating to the cause: sweaters, canned food, crackers, etc. The Lord is moving on the hearts of many. As I see it, we will be traveling within the week, God willing.

These sisters were delighted with their bottles of cooking oil.





Yesterday I spoke with Brother Roman Callata, who just returned from the area of Tasari. He says that the Aymaras (Indian tribe) are the most affected by the flooding. There are many areas that are only accessible by boat, and many homes have been destroyed. The planted fields, forget it. They are ruined. Many animals have died in the freezing weather.

I am very tired. I have just returned from the outlying areas in the eastern slopes of the Andes. On this trip I have been to just over 17,000 feet above sea level. You can imagine how the pressure affected me.

Today I was so very struck with discouragement upon seeing the need and the battles that the saints of God go through up here. We have visited almost all the churches of the area: Juncal, Komerucho, Saltiani, San Antonio, Tasari, Ramis. I still have to reach the churches at Jasana, Yapunira, Koncane, and Totorani.



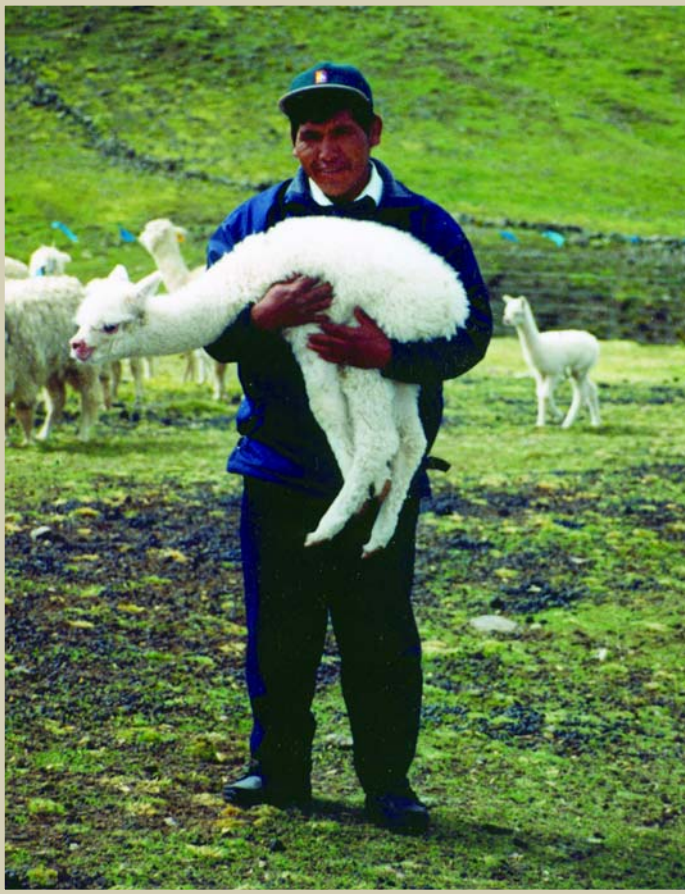
PERU continued on last page...



Bus service between the towns is always an uncomfortable, risky experience.

It is traditional for the Aymara sisters to wear every skirt she has at once, usually seven or more, and each day a different skirt is rotated to the outside. The distinctive hats have also been traditional wear for nearly a century.





...PERU continued

The bad part today is that I am out of funds. We have purchased two truck loads of hay for the animals, alfalfa seed, rice, sugar, cooking oil, and large bags of pasta. All that has been distributed amongst the churches already visited. I still must purchase for those other churches. [More funds were wired to him the same day.]

We have traveled under terrible climatic conditions. We crossed icy rivers, walked in the rain, thunder, hail, for long distances in wet clothing, but we got to the people and have fulfilled the mission to where our strength endured, until just now, Monday morning, where I have arrived completely exhausted and hungry. Last night was the hardest. The bus we were in almost went over the edge into the ravine, but the grace of God was with us in every moment. In another case, the river almost washed away our vehicle. But we continued on with our commission. □

The brothers sell llama wool for 80¢ a pound, and each animal produces seven to ten pounds of wool per year. In the U.S., llama wool sells for about \$32 per pound.

... *Mothers* continued

We thank the Lord for godly mothers, and wish to salute every one of them today. We pray that God's blessing will be in abundance in your home. I hope that despite distance, or differences, we will all be able to show thanks and respect to the one who bore us, and, with God's help, raised us. In doing so, may we give honor and respect to the Lord Jesus, who gave us this gift, and the precious gift of Eternal Life.

"Lord, we would not, by no means, forget to thank you for real mothers, for we know that we have such living today: real, genuine mothers. God bless them. They are great treasures to us, and we pray that you'll continue to be with them, Lord, and may they live happy and see the fruit of their womb serving God."⁴ □

1. MOTHER'S DAY 59-0510M
2. THOU SON OF DAVID, HAVE MERCY ON ME 61-0215
3. ELISHA THE PROPHET 56-1002E
4. MOTHER'S DAY 59-0510M

HEALING THOUGHTS

This month, those of you who are subscribers to *The Compendium* will receive a new subject: **Healing**. Instead of the standard, loose-leaf format we have used in the past, we have chosen to print this search as a stapled booklet, but it will also fit into your binder.

Our purpose in changing the format of this particular search is to make it easy for you to carry it with you. Especially during times of illness, we believe that you will want to refer to these faith-inspiring words all the time. This may become the most frequently read part of the entire Compendium series!

"Take God's healing thoughts. Let them become your thoughts. Think upon these things."

BROTHER BRANHAM

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