



Mediation

Hebrew Bible

1 Kings 3: 16-28

16 Later two prostitutes came to the king and stood before him. 17 The first woman said, "Please, my lord! This woman and I live in the same house; and I gave birth to a child while she was in the house. 18 On the third day after I was delivered, this woman also gave birth to a child. We were alone; there was no one else with us in the house, just the two of us in the house. 19 During the night this woman's child died, because she lay on it. 20 She arose in the night and took my son from my side while your maidservant was asleep, and laid him in her bosom; and she laid her dead son in my bosom. 21 When I arose in the morning to nurse my son, there he was, dead; but when I looked at him closely in the morning, it was not the son I had borne." 22 The other woman spoke up, "No, the live one is my son, and the dead one is yours!" But the first insisted, "No, the dead boy is yours; mine is the live one!" And they went on arguing before the king. 23 The king said, "One says, 'This is my son, the live one, and the dead one is yours'; and the other says, 'No, the dead boy is yours, mine is the live one.'" 24 So the king gave the order, "Fetch me a sword." A sword was brought before the king, 25 and the king said, "Cut the live child in two, and give half to one and half to the other." 26 But the woman whose son was the live one pleaded with the king, for she was overcome with compassion for her son. "Please, my lord," she cried, "give her the live child; only don't kill it!" The other insisted, "It shall be neither yours nor mine; cut it in two!" 27 Then the king spoke up. "Give the live child to her," he said, "and do not put it to death; she is its mother." 28 When all Israel heard the decision that the king had rendered, they stood in awe of the king; for they saw that he possessed divine wisdom to execute justice.

English Translation: JPS

טז אָז תּבאָנָה, שְׁתִּים נָשִׁים זָנוֹת--אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ; וּתְעַמְדְנָה, לְפָנָיו. יז וּתְאָמֵר הָאִשָּׁה הָאֶחָת, בִּי אֲדֹנָי, אֲנִי וְהָאִשָּׁה הַזֹּאת, יָשַׁבְתּ בְּבַיִת אֶחָד; וְאֵלֶּךְ עִמָּה, בְּבַיִת. יח וַיְהִי בַיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי, לְלִדְתִּי, וּתְלֵד, גַּם-הָאִשָּׁה הַזֹּאת; וַאֲנַחְנוּ יָחַד, אֵין-זָר אִתָּנוּ בְּבַיִת, זולָתִי שְׁתִּים-אֲנַחְנוּ, בְּבַיִת. יט וַיָּמָת בֶּן-הָאִשָּׁה הַזֹּאת, לְיָלֵה, אֲשֶׁר שָׁכְבָה, עָלָיו. כ וּתְקַם בְּתוֹךְ הַלַּיְלָה וּתְקַח אֶת-בְּנֵי מְאָצְלִי, וַאֲמַתְךָ יִשְׁנָה, וּתְשָׁפִיבֵהוּ, בְּחִיקָה; וְאֶת-בְּנֵה הַמֵּת, הַשְּׁפִיבָה בְּחִיקָי. כא וְאִקָּם בְּבִקְר לְהִינִיק אֶת-בְּנִי, וְהִנֵּה-מֵת; וְאִתְּבוּנָן אֵלָיו בְּבִקְר, וְהִנֵּה לֹא-הָיָה בְּנִי אֲשֶׁר יְלַדְתִּי. כב וּתְאָמֵר הָאִשָּׁה הָאֶחָת לֹא כִי, בְּנִי הָסִי וּבְנֵךְ הַמֵּת, וְזֹאת אִמְרָת לֹא כִי, בְּנֵךְ הַמֵּת וּבְנִי הָסִי; וּתְדַבְּרֶנָּה, לְפָנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ. כג וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ--זֹאת אִמְרָת, זֶה-בְּנִי הָסִי וּבְנֵךְ הַמֵּת; וְזֹאת אִמְרָת לֹא כִי, בְּנֵךְ הַמֵּת וּבְנִי הָסִי. {פ} כד וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, קַחוּ לִי-חֶרֶב; וַיָּבֵאוּ הַחֶרֶב, לְפָנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ. כה וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, גִּזְרוּ אֶת-הַיֶּלֶד הָסִי לְשָׁנַיִם; וּתְנוּ אֶת-הַחֶצִי לְאֶחָת, וְאֶת-הַחֶצִי לְאֶחָת. כו וּתְאָמֵר הָאִשָּׁה אֲשֶׁר-בְּנֵה הָסִי אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, כִּי-נִכְמְרוּ רַחֲמֶיהָ עַל-בְּנֵה, וּתְאָמֵר בִּי אֲדֹנָי תְּנוּ-לָהּ אֶת-הַיֶּלֶד הָסִי, וְהַמֵּת אֶל-תְּמִיתָהוּ; וְזֹאת אִמְרָת, גַּם-לִי גַם-לָךְ לֹא יִהְיֶה--גִּזְרוּ. כז וַיַּעַן הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיֹּאמֶר, תְּנוּ-לָהּ אֶת-הַיֶּלֶד הָסִי, וְהַמֵּת, לֹא תְּמִיתָהוּ: הִיא, אִמּוֹ. {ס} כח וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ כָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֶת-הַמִּשְׁפָּט אֲשֶׁר שָׁפַט הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַיִּרְאוּ, מִפְּנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ: כִּי רָאוּ, כִּי-תְקַמַּת אֱלֹהִים בְּקִרְבּוֹ לַעֲשׂוֹת מִשְׁפָּט. {ס}



Mediation

New Testament

Matthew 18:15-17

¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶ But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ ¹⁷ If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector. (New International Version)

¹⁵ Ἐὰν δὲ ἀμαρτήσῃ [εἰς σὲ] ὁ ἀδελφός σου, ὕπαγε ἔλεγξον αὐτὸν μεταξύ σοῦ καὶ αὐτοῦ μόνου. ἐὰν σου ἀκούσῃ, ἐκέρδησας τὸν ἀδελφόν σου: ¹⁶ ἐὰν δὲ μὴ ἀκούσῃ, παράλαβε μετὰ σοῦ ἕτι ἓνα ἢ δύο, ἵνα ἐπὶ στόματος δύο μαρτύρων ἢ τριῶν σταθῇ πᾶν ῥῆμα: ¹⁷ ἐὰν δὲ παρακούσῃ αὐτῶν, εἰπέ τῇ ἐκκλησίᾳ: ἐὰν δὲ καὶ τῆς ἐκκλησίας παρακούσῃ, ἔστω σοι ὡσπερ ὁ ἐθνικός καὶ ὁ τελώνης. ¹

English Translation: NRSV





Mediation

Quran

The family of Imran 3:102-104

102 You who believe, be mindful of God, as is His due, and make sure you devote yourselves to Him, to your dying moment. 103 Hold fast to God's rope all together; do not split into factions. Remember God's favour to you: you were enemies and then He brought your hearts together and you became brothers by His grace; you were about to fall into a pit of Fire and He saved you from it— in this way God makes His revelations clear to you so that you may be rightly guided. 104 Be a community that calls for what is good, urges what is right, and forbids what is wrong: those who do this are the successful ones.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا
تَمُوتُوا إِلَّا وَأَنتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ (١٠٢) وَأَعْتَصِمُوا
بِحَبْلِ اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا وَلَا تَفَرَّقُوا وَاذْكُرُوا نِعْمَتَ اللَّهِ
عَلَيْكُمْ إِذْ كُنْتُمْ أَعْدَاءً فَأَلَّفَ بَيْنَ قُلُوبِكُمْ
فَأَصْبَحْتُمْ بِنِعْمَتِهِ إِخْوَانًا وَكُنْتُمْ عَلَىٰ شَفَا
حُفْرَةٍ مِّنَ النَّارِ فَأَنْقَذَكُم مِّنْهَا ۚ كَذَٰلِكَ يُبَيِّنُ اللَّهُ
لَكُمْ ءَايَاتِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَهْتَدُونَ (١٠٣) وَلَتَكُن مِّنكُمْ
أُمَّةٌ يَدْعُونَ إِلَى الْخَيْرِ وَيَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ
وَيَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ وَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ
(١٠٤)

English Translation: Abdul Haleem

* 'God draws such comparisons for people' could also be translated as 'God puts forth such examples for people'