

Judgement of King Solomon

A Judeo-Christian Story About Justice



Two women came to King Solomon one day with a baby boy.

Each mother told the same story. They both lived in the same house, had both given birth to a baby boy recently, and that one of the boys had died during the night. Each claimed that the living baby boy was theirs and that the other had stolen it, replacing it with the dead child.



There was no evidence or witness. King Solomon deliberated and then called for a sword. He declared that there was only one fair solution – to split the baby in half and give each woman half of the child.

Upon hearing this the mother of living baby boy cried out. “Please, give the baby to her – if you split him, he will die!” The other woman, however, said “It shall be neither mine nor yours, divide him.”



King Solomon knew that the real mother would want to protect her child, and would prefer to give him away to save his life. In this way, he was able to distinguish between the woman who was telling the truth and the one who was lying.

King Solomon was able to give the real mother her baby.