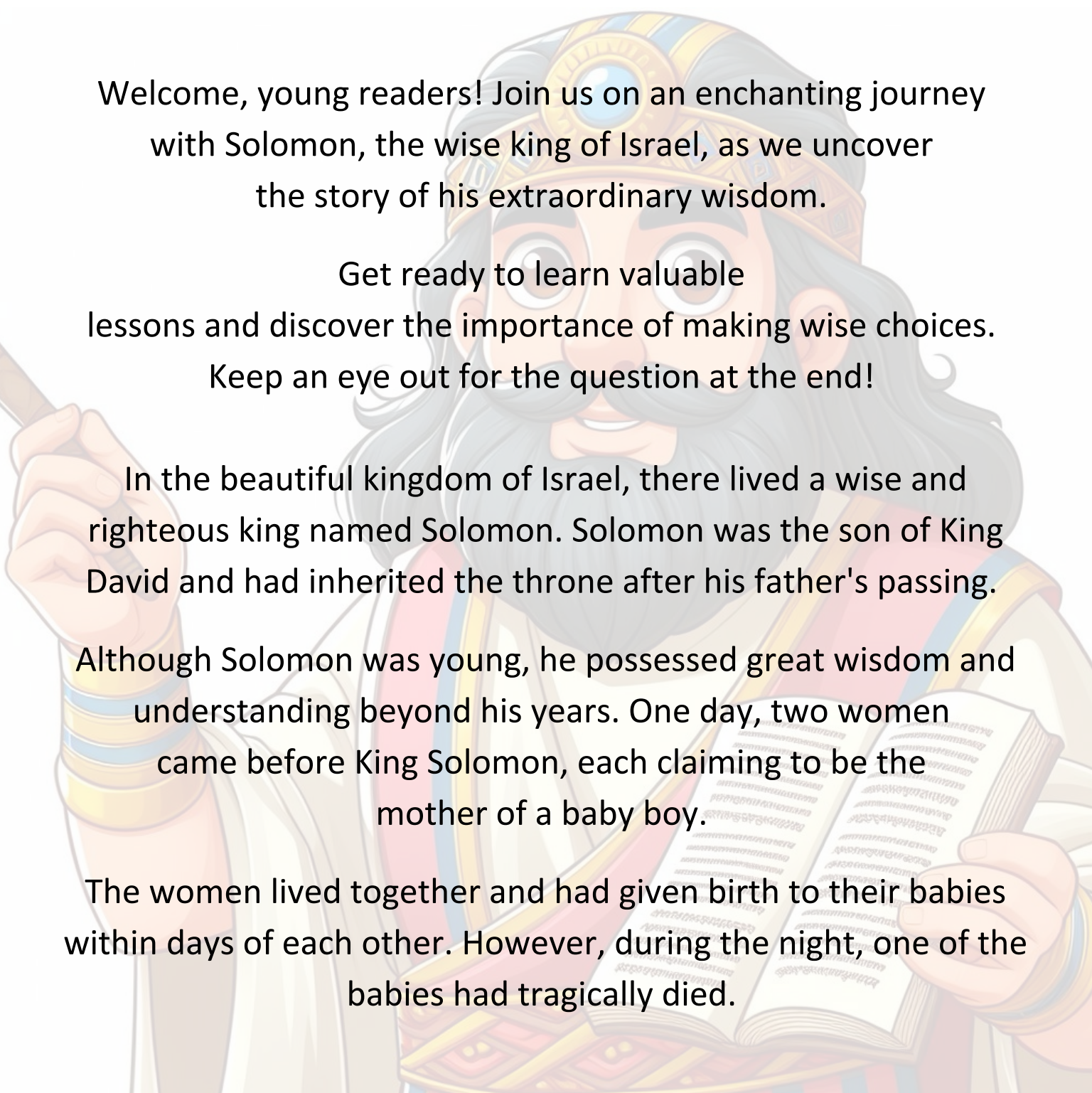




SOLOMON

and the wisdom of the Wise King

A cartoon-style illustration of King Solomon. He has long, wavy black hair and a full black beard. He is wearing a golden crown with a blue gemstone and a red and blue sash. He is holding a golden scepter in his right hand and an open book with illegible text in his left hand. The background is white.

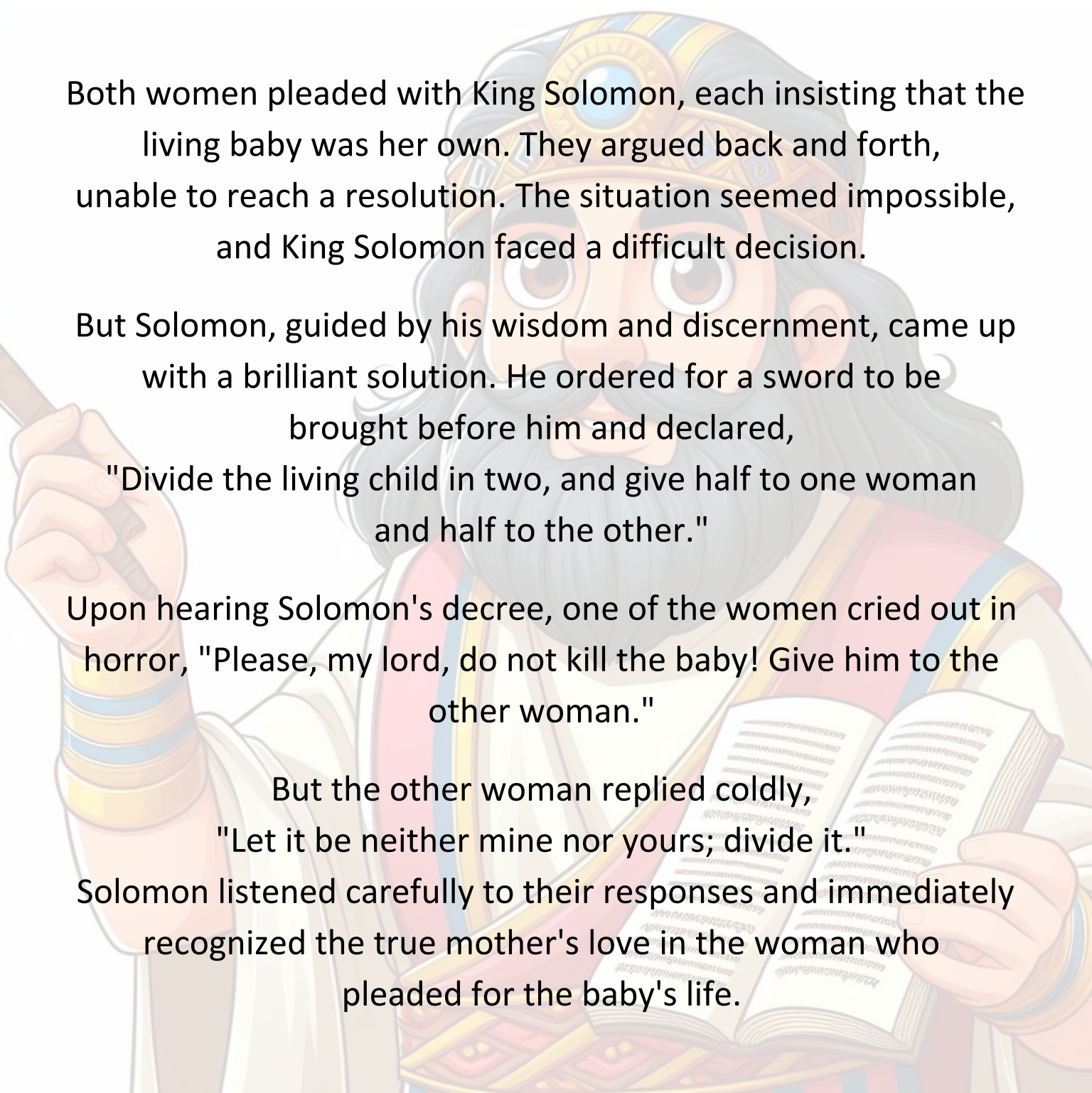
Welcome, young readers! Join us on an enchanting journey with Solomon, the wise king of Israel, as we uncover the story of his extraordinary wisdom.

Get ready to learn valuable lessons and discover the importance of making wise choices. Keep an eye out for the question at the end!

In the beautiful kingdom of Israel, there lived a wise and righteous king named Solomon. Solomon was the son of King David and had inherited the throne after his father's passing.

Although Solomon was young, he possessed great wisdom and understanding beyond his years. One day, two women came before King Solomon, each claiming to be the mother of a baby boy.

The women lived together and had given birth to their babies within days of each other. However, during the night, one of the babies had tragically died.

A cartoon-style illustration of King Solomon. He has a long black beard and hair, and is wearing a golden crown with a blue gem. He is dressed in a white robe with a red sash and a yellow and blue striped armlet. He holds a sword in his right hand and an open book in his left. The background is a light, hazy version of his face and crown.

Both women pleaded with King Solomon, each insisting that the living baby was her own. They argued back and forth, unable to reach a resolution. The situation seemed impossible, and King Solomon faced a difficult decision.

But Solomon, guided by his wisdom and discernment, came up with a brilliant solution. He ordered for a sword to be brought before him and declared,

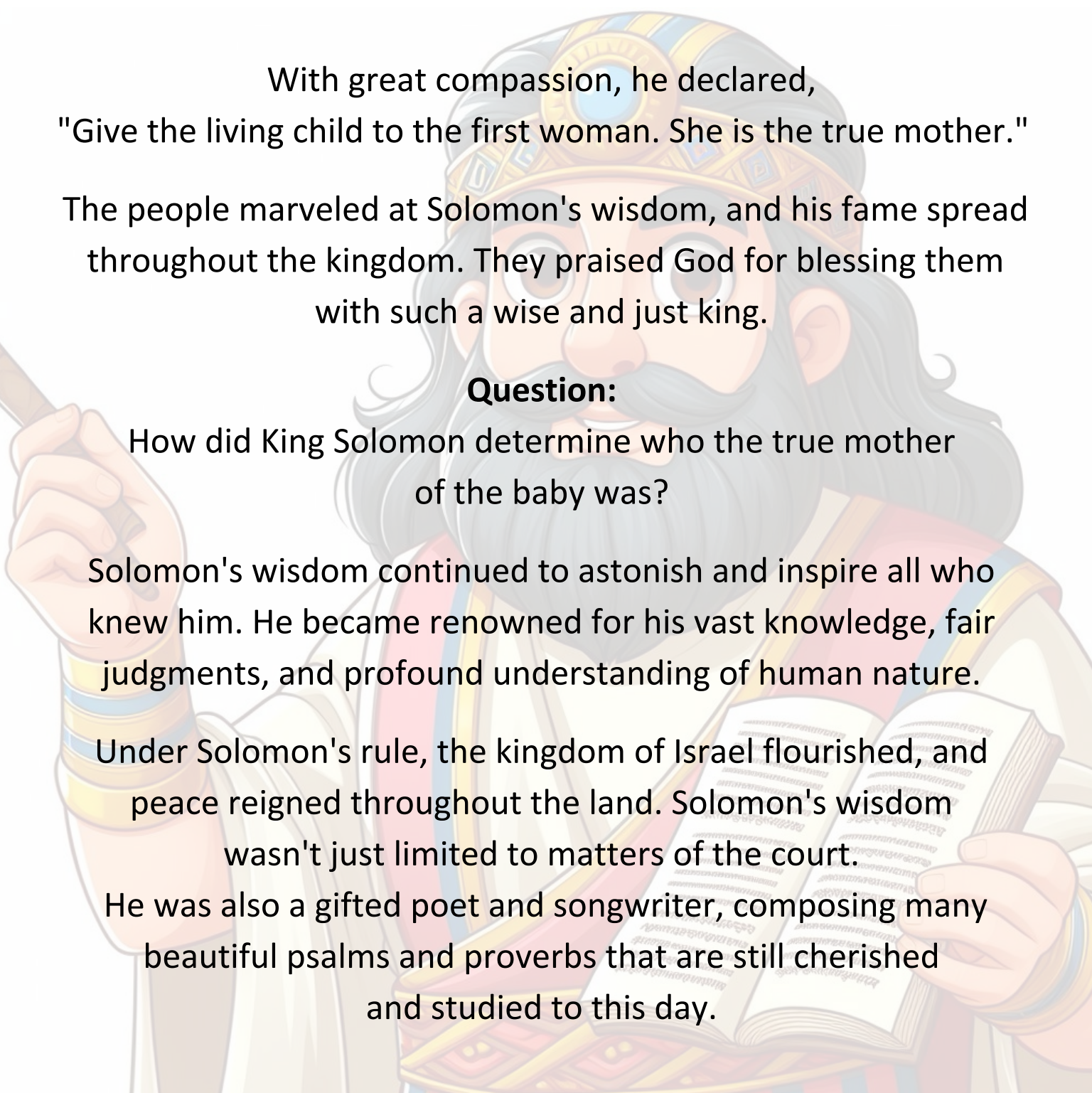
"Divide the living child in two, and give half to one woman and half to the other."

Upon hearing Solomon's decree, one of the women cried out in horror, "Please, my lord, do not kill the baby! Give him to the other woman."

But the other woman replied coldly,

"Let it be neither mine nor yours; divide it."

Solomon listened carefully to their responses and immediately recognized the true mother's love in the woman who pleaded for the baby's life.

A cartoon-style illustration of King Solomon. He has a long, dark beard and mustache, and is wearing a golden crown with a blue gem. He is dressed in a red and blue robe with gold trim. He is holding a wooden staff in his right hand and an open book in his left hand. The background is a light, textured grey.

With great compassion, he declared,
"Give the living child to the first woman. She is the true mother."

The people marveled at Solomon's wisdom, and his fame spread throughout the kingdom. They praised God for blessing them with such a wise and just king.

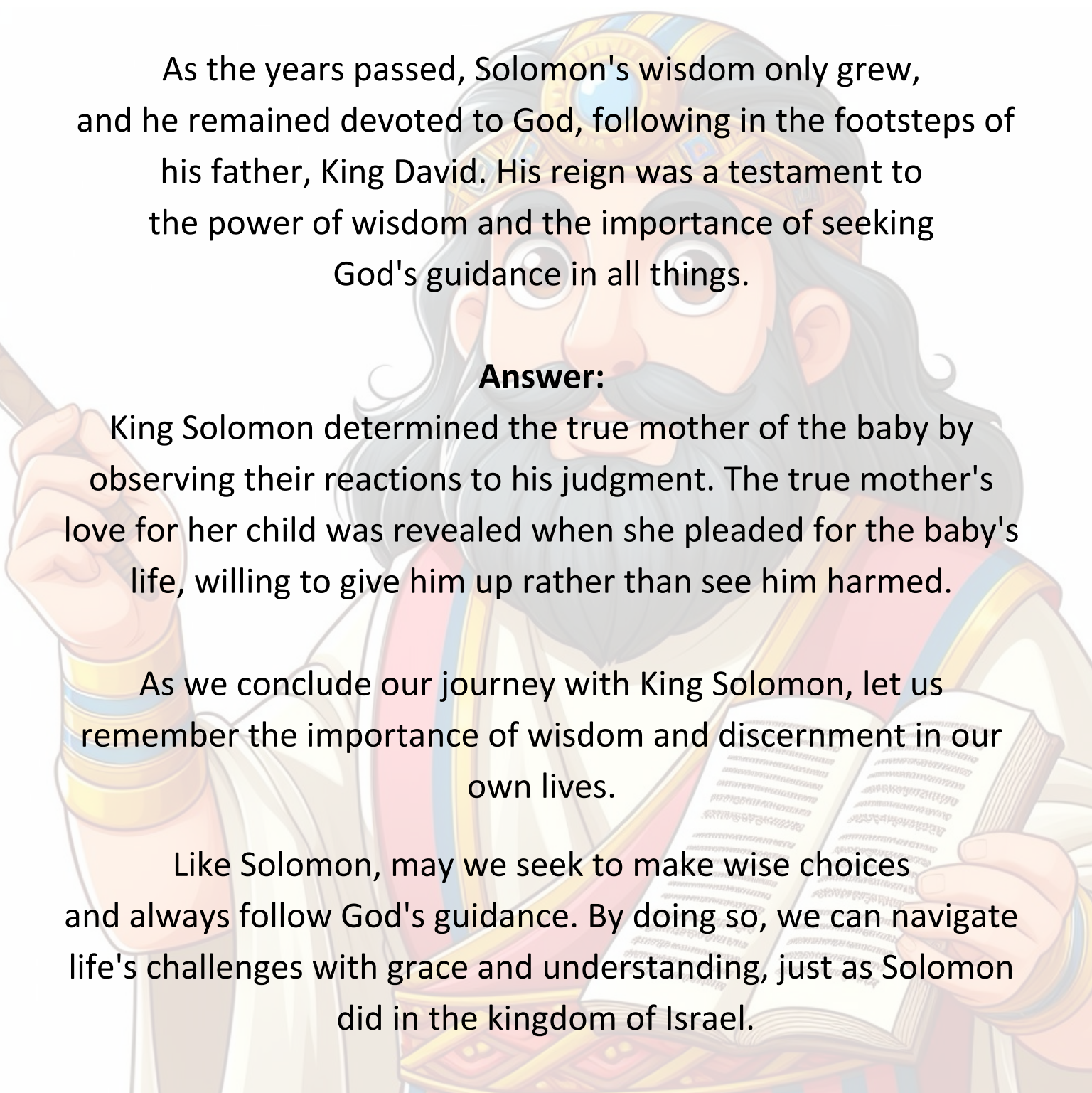
Question:

How did King Solomon determine who the true mother of the baby was?

Solomon's wisdom continued to astonish and inspire all who knew him. He became renowned for his vast knowledge, fair judgments, and profound understanding of human nature.

Under Solomon's rule, the kingdom of Israel flourished, and peace reigned throughout the land. Solomon's wisdom wasn't just limited to matters of the court.

He was also a gifted poet and songwriter, composing many beautiful psalms and proverbs that are still cherished and studied to this day.

A cartoon-style illustration of King Solomon. He has long, wavy black hair and a full black beard. He is wearing a golden crown with a blue gemstone and a red and blue sash over a white robe. He holds a golden scepter in his right hand and an open book with illegible text in his left hand. The background is a light, hazy version of the same illustration.

As the years passed, Solomon's wisdom only grew, and he remained devoted to God, following in the footsteps of his father, King David. His reign was a testament to the power of wisdom and the importance of seeking God's guidance in all things.

Answer:

King Solomon determined the true mother of the baby by observing their reactions to his judgment. The true mother's love for her child was revealed when she pleaded for the baby's life, willing to give him up rather than see him harmed.

As we conclude our journey with King Solomon, let us remember the importance of wisdom and discernment in our own lives.

Like Solomon, may we seek to make wise choices and always follow God's guidance. By doing so, we can navigate life's challenges with grace and understanding, just as Solomon did in the kingdom of Israel.