This investigation examined the contribution of a religious / ideological orientation to motherhood verses an instrumental / egoistic orientation to the psychological functioning of religious mothers of large families. Eighty religious Jewish women residing in Israel, mothers of between 6 to 12 children participated in this study. After controlling for both social support and for religious support, hierarchical regression analysis revealed that a religious / ideological orientation to motherhood positively contributed to psychological functioning as measured by depression, anxiety, life satisfaction and perceived health whereas an instrumental / egoistic orientation to motherhood was found to have a negative contribution to psychological functioning.