

Mary: The Mother of Jesus

- **Introduction:**
 - Mary is certainly a misunderstood character in the Bible.
 - Let us notice what we can about her as we search the Scriptures.
- **I. MARY WAS PURE.**
 - Had she not been a virgin, she could not have been the mother of the Christ-child.
 - Living a clean life always enables us to do our best for God and reach our greatest potential for Him.
 - An impure life has often led a person to sacrifice the perfect will of God for his life.
- **II. SHE CHOSE A GODLY HUSBAND.**
 - One of the most admirable persons in all the Scripture was Joseph.
 - Mary would settle for nothing but the best.
 - Let us teach our young people to date only Christians.
 - Let us alert them to the danger of marrying people who are not consecrated, clean Christians.
- **III. MARY WAS A SINNER. JUST LIKE ANYONE ELSE.**
 - ***."And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour." (Luke 1:47)***
 - Many people have attributed to Mary many things of which she is not deserving.
 - Though she was a clean, pure lady, and though she was a wonderful Christian, nevertheless, she was a sinner.
 - Look at Luke 1:47 and notice the words, "my Saviour."
 - Mary said that Jesus was her Saviour.
 - Only sinners need a Saviour. Look at Luke 1:48 and notice the words, "the low estate of his handmaiden.'
 - We give her a high estate;
 - God gives her a low estate.
 - She was not lower than anyone else; we are all sinners. Christ died for Mary just like He died for me and you.
 - She had to be saved just like you and I must be saved.
 - Mary gave voice to a hymn of thanksgiving in Luke 1:46-55.
 - She was a woman of depth, of joy and of gratitude to God.
- **IV. A LOOK INTO MARY'S CHARACTER IS SHOWN IN THE LIFE OF CHRIST WHEN HE WAS 12 YEARS OLD.**
 - ***"Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover." (Luke 2:41)***
 - In Luke 2:41 we find that she was in the habit of attending the Passover in Jerusalem each year.

- This was not required of Jewish women (Exodus 23:17); nevertheless, Mary went with Joseph.
- Here we find that she was a deeply spiritual person and one who was interested in the things of God.
- She herself was faithful to God's house.
- No characteristic is more fitting to the charming nature of womanhood than faithfulness to the House of God.
- **V. SHE APPEARED AT THE MARRIAGE IN CANA WITH JESUS.**
 - Though she was a believer in Christ she ventured out of bounds a bit in directing His actions in John 2:1-10.
 - He gave her a respectful but firm rebuke.
 - Mary must realize that when it comes to His life's work, she is simply a believer, a Christian and a follower, and has no place greater than another.
 - This truth is brought out more graphically the next time she appears in the Scriptures--Matthew 12:46-50; Mark 3:31-35; Luke 8:19-21.
 - Our Lord was teaching parables and Mary and His brethren desired to see Him.
 - He replied, ***"For Whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in Heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother."* (Matthew 12:50)**
 - He is not rebuking Mary as having done something sinful, but He is reminding her that when it comes to His ministry, she is just another follower and another Christian.
 - How We need to learn this!
- **VI. MARY WAS WITH JESUS TO THE END.**
 - No doubt she was one of the ladies who Has with Him around the cross.
 - There is never a complaint from Mary, never a grumbling against the action Jesus had taken.
 - She knew it was the will of God for His life.
 - It was hard for her to accept, but she wanted Christ to do the will of the Father.
 - Every mother should pray from before the birth of the child that the child would find and do God's will.
 - It they mean suffering, heartache, or even death, but let us pray that our children will do the Hill of God.
 - This is the greatest accomplishment one can achieve.
- **VII. SHE BROUGHT JESUS TO THE HOUSE OF GOD.**
 - ***."And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read." (Luke 4:16)***

- It was the custom of Jesus to attend the House of God.
- This certainly was because of the influence of his home.
- From a child, He had attended God's House.
- It was His custom, or His habit, to do so.
- Let us from the birth of our children bring them to the House of God and dedicate them to Him.
- **VIII. SHE WAS CARED FOR BY HER SON UPON HIS DEATH.**
 - While Jesus was dying, He gave her to the care of His beloved disciple, John, and "*...from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home.*" John 19:25-27.
 - Jesus saw to it His mother was cared for.
 - Let us dwell here for a season.
 - Certainly we should care for those, when they are aged. who cared for us when we were infants.
- **IX. AFTER THE ASCENSION, SHE WAS WITH THE APOSTLES IN THE UPPER ROOM IN JERUSALEM.**
 - ***"These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren."* (Acts 1:14)**
 - This is the last time we find her in the Scriptures.
 - We do not know how she died.
 - Her tomb is shown in the Valley of Kidron, but we do not know that she actually was buried there.
- **X. MARY WAS POOR .**
 - This is revealed to us in the story of the dedication of Jesus in Luke 2:21-24.
 - Notice in verse 24 that she offered a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.
 - This was to be offered in the case of poverty.
 - A lamb was the offering, but in case of poverty, turtledoves or pigeons must do as a substitute.
 - The poor can be a blessing and can do God's will as well as the rich.
 - This certainly should encourage the hearts of many.
- **XI. PERHAPS BEFORE WE LEAVE MARY WE SHOULD SAY A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE VIRGIN BIRTH.**
 - Read Isaiah 7:14 and find its fulfillment in Luke 1:27, 34, 35.
 - These verses certainly teach the virgin birth.
 - This is also taught in Matthew 1:18-25.
 - This certainly explains the virgin birth.
 - When our Lord was 12 years old, He seemed to rebuke Mary for saying that Joseph was His father.
 - She said, "Thy father and I have sought thee."
 - Jesus said, "How is it that ye have sought me?"

- Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?"
Luke 2:48, 49.
- He was speaking about His real Father; God was His Father.