

MARY PONDERED – PART 1

Luke 2:19 ... “But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.”

The word “ponder” is one that we seldom use today. It simply means to carefully consider. In the case of Mary, I’m confident she spent her entire life carefully considering everything she had seen, heard, and been told – including what an Angel told her before Jesus’ birth. She had the best seat in the house for the second-most important and life altering events in history (second only to creation). And, for some of those events she was the sole participant. The Apostles became Christ’s closest friends and followers, and they were inspired by God to write their Gospels. Paul was the greatest evangelist and missionary of all time, and he wrote half of the New Testament. But none of these men were present when an angel visited Mary and informed her that she would give birth to the Messiah. None of them were around when Jesus was born, nor for the first thirty years of his life. Mary, who may have been as young as 13 when she became pregnant with Jesus, pondered everything she saw and apparently remained silent.

Mary had several clues as to the Lordship of her baby boy. The angel told her that very clearly. She saw his character growing up and realized he was different than other children. She knew he had taught in the temple before he was even a teenager and that he knew the Hebrew scriptures front to back. She must have seen him perform some miracles or other supernatural feats in his early years, because she knew he could solve the problem of insufficient wine for the feast they attended together. Our Bible paints his act of turning water into wine as Jesus’ first miracle, but I doubt that it was his first, otherwise Mary would not have had the confidence in his power. Mary surely spent her entire life pondering the things she knew, heard, and saw.

When Jesus began his ministry at about thirty years of age, he called twelve men to follow him. Though Jesus was then an adult and had no need of a mother to care for him, Mary also followed. She knew his destiny, his purpose and his Lordship; she had to follow him to honor him and to see her son’s mission played out. And when Jesus was crucified, Mary was there beneath the cross, pondering all that she knew about her son.

We will continue this devotional in part 2.

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