

MARY PONDERED – PART 2

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

Today we resume the devotional we began several days ago. We are discussing the things that Mary, the mother of Jesus, spent her life considering with regard to Jesus. If you did not read part 1 of this devotional, we urge you to do so before continuing with part 2.

When Jesus rose from the dead and reappeared to his followers, Mary was there, still pondering. And when Jesus ascended into heaven, Mary pondered everything she knew about him. We know little about Mary following Jesus’ ascension, but I am confident that the things she personally knew about Jesus – the many supernatural acts she personally witnessed him perform and the reality of him being the Son of God – gave her enough to ponder for the rest of her life.

We can only guess what Mary might have told us if God had allowed her to write her own gospel account of Jesus’ life and ministry. It would be fun to read about his life as a child and a teenager, his carpentry skills, his relationship with Joseph (his step-father), and the early clues to his divinity that she, and she alone, personally witnessed. I am sure we would find her thoughts about seeing her son executed and then resurrected, inspiring and moving. But God chose to minimize Mary’s role in the historic account. God chose to keep Mary silent. Why? Why might God have prevented us from hearing from Mary?

Mary was a simple peasant girl. She was not from a prominent family, or wealthy, or noted for a lifetime of charity or service. God displays a habit throughout scripture of not making his servants celebrities.

I also suspect that God kept Mary silent because our faith should not be grounded in what others tell us. It can only be established through our own personal relationship with Jesus. Had Mary spoken and recorded her story, many might have become followers of her instead of her son. Your future depends upon your own relationship with Christ, not someone else’s. As we celebrate Christ’s birth, ponder what you know about Jesus. Ponder the role he has – or does not have – in your life. Ponder what you will do about your need for a Savior. There is no better time to surrender your life to Jesus, than on the day we commemorate his birth.

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