

WE WISH YOU A “MARY” CHRISTMAS
A Christmas Sermon Series on the Person Blessed by God
Message Two: The Commitment of Mary
Dr. Greg Tyree, BBC, AM, December 12, 2004

INTRODUCTION:

I. MARY’S COMMITMENT IS SEEN IN WHAT SHE RISKED. Matt. 1:18, 19.

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly.

A. Mary Risked Her Reputation.

B. Mary Risked Her Relationships.

II. MARY’S COMMITMENT IS SEEN IN WHAT SHE RENDERED. Matt. 1:20-25.

²⁰But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹“And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.” ²²So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: ²³“Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.” ²⁴Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, ²⁵and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.

A. Mary Rendered Her Physical Temple to the Lord.

B. Mary Rendered Her Precious Time to the Lord.

III. MARY’S COMMITMENT IS SEEN IN WHAT SHE RELINQUISHED. Matt. 2:16-21.

¹⁶Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: ¹⁸“A voice was heard in Ramah, Lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted, Because they are no more.” ¹⁹But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰saying, “Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child’s life are dead.” ²¹Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel.

A. Mary Gave Up Her **Safety** for the Lord.

B. Mary Gave Up Her **Security** for the Lord.

IV. MARY’S COMMITMENT IS SEEN IN WHAT SHE RETAINED. Luke 2:19.

But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.

A. Through It All Mary Retained Her **Faith** (Attitude).

B. Through It All Mary Retained Her **Faithfulness** (Actions).

APPLICATION:

1. Have you placed your reputation above your character?
2. How have human relationships affected your commitment to Christ and His Church?
3. As you look at the time and personal sacrifice Mary gave for God, how does that motivate you to do the same?
4. How does the time you give to God measure up to the time spent on “earthly” things?
5. Would you endure personal safety to follow Christ?
6. If following the Lord meant losing your home, your job, or your future security, would you still do it?
7. How has your attitude affected your actions?