

WE WISH YOU A “MARY” CHRISTMAS
A Christmas Sermon Series on the Person Blessed by God
Message Three: The Calling of Mary
Dr. Greg Tyree, BBC, AM, December 19, 2004

INTRODUCTION:

We have considered:

1. Mary’s Character and
2. Mary Commitment; now we will consider
3. Mary’s Calling

PROPOSITION: Mary’s fivefold calling for the Lord’s glory inspires us to passionately pursue a holy calling for God

I. MARY WAS CALLED TO PURITY. Luke 1:26-28.

²⁶Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. ²⁸And having come in, the angel said to her, “Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!”

A. Mary Was **Spiritually** Pure.

...highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women...

B. Mary Was **Physically** Pure.

...a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph...

II. MARY WAS CALLED TO PREPARE.

A. Mary Prepared Herself for the **Commencement** of Her Task (The Virgin Womb). Luke 2:1-7.

¹And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. ³So all went to be registered, everyone to his own

city. ⁴Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. ⁶So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. ⁷And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

B. Mary Prepared Herself for the **Completion** of Her Task (The Vacant Tomb). John 19:25-28.

1. She was there at the cross. John 19:25-28.

²⁵Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" ²⁷Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home. ²⁸After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!"

2. She was at the empty tomb. Mark 15:47

And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses observed where He was laid.

We know that this is the mother of Jesus because of what we read in Matthew 13:55:

"Is this not the carpenter's son? Is not His mother called Mary? And His brothers James, Joses, Simon, and Judas?"

3. She was in the upper room after Jesus' ascension. Acts 1:11.

These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

III. MARY WAS CALLED FOR A PURPOSE.

A. Mary Had an **Immediate** Mission.

1. To Carry "God" in Her Womb.
2. To Raise the God-Man to adulthood.

3. To Release Him in His Time.
- B. Mary Made an **Indelible** Mark.
1. Mary is remembered above all women.
 2. Mary's name is the most common female name in the world (some 6 to 7 million women in America alone have some form of the name "Mary" (Miriam, Maryanne, Myra, etc.).
 3. Mary inspires us to holiness and commitment.

IV. MARY WAS CALLED BY A PLAN.

- A. Mary was Necessary for the Plan of God's **Salvation**.

Jesus was to be forever sinless, requiring that He be born from the womb of a virgin, not because a virgin is sinless, but so that He would not be touched by the sin nature passed down by the male.

- B. Mary Was Needed for the Protection of God's **Son**.

As the God-Child (God-Man), Jesus laid aside many of His divine attributes (did not cease to be God, but temporarily denied Himself the use of some of His divine attributes. Mary was necessary to protect, nurture, and mold Him as a growing baby, child, and young man.

V. MARY WAS CALLED FOR A PROMISE.

- A. God Promised Mary and Amazing **Privilege**. Luke 1:28-30.

²⁸And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. ²⁹And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. ³⁰And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.

- B. God Promised Mary His Awesome **Provision**. Luke 1:37, 38.

³⁷For with God nothing shall be impossible. ³⁸And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

APPLICATION:

1. How spiritually pure are you?
2. How will you keep yourself physically pure?
3. Are you preparing yourself for God's calling for your life?
4. Do you understand that God's calling is immediate as well as future?
5. How do you see yourself helping people come to know Christ as Savior?
6. Will you be used of God to witness to people about salvation?
7. Can you trust God to keep His word, and set out on faith and live radically for Him?