

WHAT DID MARY KNOW

Wednesday, December 10

Reading: Luke 1:26-38

Luke 1:30 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. **31** You will conceive and give birth to a Son, and you are to call Him Jesus.

*Mary, did you know that your Baby Boy / Would one day walk on water?
Mary, did you know that your Baby Boy / Would save our sons and daughters?
Did you know that your Baby Boy / Has come to make you new?
This Child that you delivered will soon deliver you*

*Mary, did you know that your Baby Boy / Will give sight to a blind man?
Mary, did you know that your Baby Boy / Would calm a storm with His hand?
Did you know that your Baby Boy / Has walked where angels trod?
And when you kiss your little Baby / You've kissed the face of God?*

These opening verses ask the question: How much did Mary know and when did she know it? While she could not know the minute details of her Son's life, she did know who He was and why He came. When the angel Gabriel announced Jesus' birth to Mary, he was very clear:

"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High...
the holy One to be born will be called the Son of God" (Luke 2:32, 35)

The angel who appeared to Joseph told of Jesus' mission: "He will save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). After His birth, old Simeon in the Temple would reinforce this message by taking the baby Jesus in his arms and saying:

"My eyes have seen your salvation...This Child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel,
and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed.
And a sword will pierce your own soul too." (Luke 2:30-35)

Imagine the weight of knowing that she was to bring the Son of God, the Savior, into the world. Mary is still an unmarried teenage girl when the angel tells her this news. Yet, she responds in faith. She does not question this miracle in her life. She does not show fear at what it may cost her. She simply responds in humble faith: "I am the Lord's servant. May your word to me be fulfilled" (Luke 1:38).

Mary's simple answer of obedience is an example for all of us! The book of James tells us to "Submit to God...Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up" (4:10). How can you have a servant's heart like Mary? Will you be obedient even when it may bring you trouble and pain in the short term?

I love the line in the song: "This Child that you delivered will soon deliver you." The Infant growing in Mary's womb, the Child she would go through the pains of labor to deliver into the world would one day suffer and die on a cross to deliver her (and everyone who believes) from the power of Satan, sin, and death. Jesus came to save! He came to make all things new! (Revelation 21:5). What can you do this Christmas to thank Him for His sacrifice and rejoice in His resurrection? Jesus said, "Because I live, you will live also" (John 14:19).