

PROVE ALL THINGS

Would Mary Be Pleased?

Last week we questioned human traditions regarding the holiday called “Christmas” (which holiday is a human tradition itself). We offer more thoughts on this here.

Mary, a virgin, gave birth to Jesus (Lk. 1:34). Her place was one of blessing and favor (Lk. 1:28, 30). But the Bible does not teach that Mary was personally sinless nor that she remained a virgin throughout life. Biblical information is opposite to these human traditions. Only Jesus lived without sin, and His sinless life was given for our sins (2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Jn. 3:5.) And Mary’s relationship with Joseph, her lawful husband, and her bearing other children by natural means in no way takes away from her role in God’s purpose.

Some say Christians should pray “to Jesus, through Mary,” that Mary intercedes to God for us. Again, this idea has no Biblical foundation. We should pray to God through Jesus Christ, **NOT** through Mary (Col. 3:17; Heb. 13:15.)

At a marriage feast Mary told Jesus that the wine had run out (Jn. 2:1-11). Mary said to the servants, “Whatever He says to you, do it.” I suspect Mary would still tell people to do what Jesus says. However, we should be obediently honoring the Heavenly Father and His Son rather than “deifying” Jesus’s earthly mother.

-Joe Hickman

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“No one, after lighting a lamp, puts it away in a cellar nor under a basket, but on the lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light. . . Then watch out that the light in you is not darkness. If therefore your whole body is full of light, with no dark part in it, it will be wholly illumined, as when the lamp illumines you with its rays.”

Luke 11:33, 35-36

December 18, 2011

Upcoming Events

Today's Lessons:

Sunday AM — The Lamp of the Body

Sunday PM — Genealogy of Jesus

Times of worship:

Sunday 9:30 — Bible classes for all ages

Sunday 10:30 — Worship services

Sunday 6:00 — Worship services

Wednesday 7:00 — Midweek Bible Classes for all ages

Announcements

-The Wicker Family is out of town visiting the family of Ronnie Green. Ronnie preaches in Kodak, Tennessee as well as working other jobs to make ends meet. He injured himself at work recently and the decision was reached Wednesday evening to send him financial assistance from the church here. The Wickers are delivering the check.

-Some of our college students and other family members will be travelling over the next few weeks. All who will be travelling need our prayers.

-Please remember Diana Coney's aunt, Joann, who is recovering from major surgery.

Announcements

-Please pray for Rachel Hickman's sister, Tina Breland. She is scheduled to have serious back surgery on Tuesday in central North Carolina.

-Continue to pray for the mother of Ken Moss' sister-in-law. She had essential back surgery last Sunday. Also keep Ken's sister-in-law in prayer as she had very significant health problems of her own.

-A co-worker of Earl Metcalf, Joe Brigman, was injured very badly on the job last week. He is still in the hospital in serious condition. Our prayers are needed.

-Continue to pray for Kathy Robinson who is dealing with dizzy spells. This, along with distance and other challenges, have made it difficult for Kathy to get out lately.

-A call on Friday from Cynthia Laster indicated that she has been unable to get around for the last several weeks because of knee problems. She is improving and has just been told to start trying to go places again.

-Ben Counts, Elaine Hancock, Elizabeth Ruhlman, Donalee Hicks, Kara Latta and others who deal with various health concerns continue to need our prayers. So do those who see to their needs.

-Please check the bulletin board at the building for contact information changes and additions. This will be helpful for staying in touch.

-Kim Bailey broke her foot, and she has not been able to worship with us. Pray for her speedy recovery.