

MARY, A PERPETUAL VIRGIN?

Michael Pickford

According to prophecy, Mary, the mother of Jesus, was a virgin when she gave birth to him (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:22-23). The Catholic church claims that Mary continued to be a virgin after Jesus was born, and until the day she died. Is this true?

Mathew tells us that Joseph, Mary's husband, "did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus" (Matthew 1:25). That little word "Till" tells us that Joseph did go on to have normal Husband/wife sexual relations with Mary after Jesus was born.

Further, The Bible is clear that Jesus had physical siblings. The people of

Nazareth were speaking of Jesus' physical family when they said, "Is this not the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And his brothers James, Joses, Simon, and Judas? And His sisters are they not all with us?" (Matthew 13:55-56). Clearly Joseph and Mary had several children together. Mary could not have remained a virgin.

Luke informs us that when Jesus was born Mary had "Brought forth her firstborn Son" (Luke 2:7). Shouldn't Luke have said "Only child" if she did not go on to bear more children after Him?

Don't be deceived by man-made doctrines. Believe the Bible! 🔍

Welcome to our services and thank you for visiting. If you have any questions about our beliefs or practices, please don't hesitate to ask.

God has not only commanded us to worship Him, but has also told us how, in His word. **The elements of our services, as prescribed by God's word, are as follows:**

- **SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12
- **PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5
- **LORD'S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7
- **GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7



- www.defendthegospel.com
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3rd Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Radio program on wgns. 15 minute sermon every Sunday morning from 10:45 - 11:00.
- 5th Sunday Men's Training Class, 4:30 pm. Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men's Business Meeting. 1st Sunday evenings following services.



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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"They...searched the scriptures daily..." –Acts 17:11

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PRAYER

Michael Pickford

The Bible reveals a great deal about prayer. I want to remind us of three key truths regarding prayer...

HOLY HANDS. In 1 Timothy 2:1 Paul gives us the primary categories of prayer. "Supplications" speak of asking God for the things we need. "Prayers" speaks of the worship/adoration aspect of prayer. We praise and extol God (i.e. "Hallowed be Your name," –Matthew 6:9). "Intercessions" are petitions on behalf of others (i.e. the sick, bereaved, those traveling, etc). "Giving of thanks" speaks for itself. Thanksgiving is an essential part of true prayer (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18; Philippians 4:6-7; Colossians 4:2). Then Paul expresses the need for men to lift up "Holy hands" when they pray (1 Timothy 2:8). God is not concerned here with posture, but with purity. It speaks of the character of the man praying. Living a holy and righteous life empowers our prayers, making them potent and efficacious. Both James and Peter agreed, "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much" (James 5:16). "For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers" (1 Peter 3:12).

HAUGHTY HEADSEAT. "Headset" speaks of attitude or disposition. A haughty disposition renders prayer fruitless – vain. The Pharisee went to God in prayer merely to boast of his own accomplishments. He did not go down justified (Luke 18:9-12). A haughty headset is also demonstrated by one who thinks God exists to be his own personal Santa Claus. "You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures" (James 4:3). There are four possible answers to prayer – Yes, no, wait, and you've got to be kidding. James 4:3 addresses the latter. A haughty headset solicits praise from others. Such is the heart of the hypocrite. The only reward they'll receive is that which they seek - to hear someone tell them, "What a beautiful prayer." God will not attend to this type of prayer. (Matthew 6:5)...

HUMBLE HEART. It's not haughtiness, but humility that gets prayers answered. Hezekiah prayed with tears and his life was extended (2 Kings 20:1-6). The tax collector approached God humbly and went down "Justified" (Luke 18:13-14). When you go to God in prayer, "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up" (James 4:10). 🔍

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COME WORSHIP WITH US!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...9:00
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....10:00
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP.....6:00
WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES....7:00

EVERYONE WELCOME!

BAPTISM & 1 CORINTHIANS 1:12-17

Michael Pickford

The above passage is often referenced by those who deny the necessity of baptism for salvation. They explain that since Paul thanked God that he baptized none of them (vs 14), baptism isn't essential for salvation. They also claim that since Paul said he wasn't sent to baptize (vs 17), then baptism isn't necessary for salvation. This distortion of scripture won't work for the following reasons...

(1) The text actually supports the necessity for baptism. According to what Paul wrote here, in order for one to be "Of Paul," (vs 12) two things were necessary: (1) Paul had to be crucified for them (vs 13) and (2) They had to be baptized in the name of Paul (vs 13). Paul just assumes these facts in his statements. Therefore, in order for one to be "of Christ," these same two things were necessary, Christ had to be crucified for them, and they had to be baptized in the name of Christ. Based on this text, if one has not been baptized into Christ then he is not truly "Of Christ."

(2) Jesus sent his apostles into the world to make disciples by baptizing them (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:15-16). Paul was an apostle, called later, but with the same mission; so, did Christ send all the apostles out to baptize except for Paul? (vs 17). Two possible answers fit the context. (1) Paul was talking about doing the actual physical baptizing himself. It is said that Jesus baptized many, but He didn't do the actual physical baptizing (John 4:1-2). Paul taught the necessity of baptism for salvation (Galatians 3:26-27; Romans 6:1-6), but others often handled the physical aspect of baptizing. (2) It's possible that Paul meant he was not sent to baptize folks "In the name of Paul." (see vs 13). Notice that Paul did baptize some at Corinth (vs 14). If verse 17 means Christ didn't send him to baptize at all because it wasn't necessary, then did he disobey Christ by baptizing Crispus and Gaius and others?

(3) Paul knew that baptism was necessary to wash away sins and get saved because he himself had been told, "Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins" (Acts 22:16). So why would he teach the Corinthians that baptism wasn't essential for salvation when he himself had been baptized in order to have his sins washed away and be saved? Does anyone want to claim that one can be saved BEFORE his sins are washed away?

(4) Paul reminded the Corinthians that they had entered the body by being baptized (1 Corinthians 12:13). The body is the church (Colossians 1:18). One cannot be saved outside of the body (church) because it is only the body (church) that Christ is the Savior of (Ephesians 5:23), and one enters the saved body by being baptized. This being so, how could Paul contradict himself by teaching that baptism isn't necessary for salvation in 1 Corinthians 1:14-17?

(5) The things Paul wrote were the commandments of the Lord (1 Corinthians 14:37). The Lord taught that baptism is necessary for salvation (Mark 16:16). Why would the Lord give Paul a teaching that contradicts What He Himself taught while on earth?

(6) Paul plainly wrote that salvation is located "In Christ" (2 Timothy 2:10). He also taught clearly that one gets into Christ (where salvation is) by being baptized (Galatians 3:26-27). Did Paul contradict this in 1 Corinthians chapter one? 🐞

SERMON NOTES

Search the scriptures daily to see if these things are so.

**STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11**

Introduction: _____

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Kenny Todd
- Bible Reading by.....Robert Johnson
Reading: Romans 12:9-18
- Song Leader.....Ben Green
- Opening Prayer.....Sam Miller
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....Ben Reagh
Serve.....Kenny Johnson
Serve.....Frank Anderson
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Todd

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Lynn Buttrey
- Lord's Table.....Ben Reagh

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Ben Reagh
- Invitation.....Kenny Todd

**Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!**

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.

- Hear The Gospel: Romans 10:17
- Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30
- Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- Be Baptized: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

Obey Today!