

Mary's Song

Hold that blanket closer, Mary dear
All the world waits with You for Your day
But for now, the wind is cold and it's drear
And Bethlehem's still so far away
Do You remember the way You felt back then?
Joy and wonder filled Your soul
And when the angel slipped away
You knew Your life would never be the same

[Chorus:]

But now, You're travelin', travelin' on a road
To Bethlehem, wanderin' thoughts fly away
If you knew the road that lay ahead of Him
Would You break down and cry?
Your child is born to die

Feel that hand of strength upon Your own
A husband's love that guides along the way
And as his understanding has grown
His hopes too are centered on that day
For do You remember the way he looked back then
Pain and sorrow filled his eyes
'Til when the angel came to say
The Savior's birth was meant to be this way

[Repeat Chorus]

Think back on that promise You received
For Him, whom the prophets long believed
Now, belongs to You, You've been chosen to
But He's the one who's gonna shine
We call His name Jesus, Immanuel
He'll save His people from sin and hell
And of His kingdom there will be no end

[Repeat Chorus]

Luke 1:24-31 (NASB)

After these days Elizabeth his wife became pregnant, and she kept herself in seclusion for five months, saying, "This is the way the Lord has dealt with me in the days when He looked with favor upon me, to take away my disgrace among men." Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming in, he said to her, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was very perplexed at this statement, and kept pondering what kind of salutation this was. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God. "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus.

The distance from Nazareth, where Mary and Joseph lived to Bethlehem is between 70 and 80 miles. This trip would have taken them between 4 days and a week to make. Mary probably made the trip walking and maybe riding a donkey. It would have been a very hard trip to make for a woman about to give birth to a child. The words of the angel probably ran through her mind as she walked the long trail each day. After all, having an angel visit you and give you such news is something that would change your life forever.

Matthew 1:18-24 (NASB)

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly. But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. "She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL," which translated means, "GOD WITH US." And Joseph awoke from his sleep and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took Mary as his wife,

As Mary tired from the journey she always had Joseph by her side. Surly when she stumbled and he was there to hold her she still remembered the time just a few months before when he was ready to call off their marriage because she was pregnant. Then just as the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him that the child she was going to deliver was the son of God. Joseph, being a righteous man, did as the Lord commanded and took Mary to be his wife. Now he was by her side on this long journey.

Luke 1:32-33 (NASB)

He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end."

As she walked you know she thought back on what the angel had told her that day. She remembered the promise from the angel that her child would be the child from God. That he would be called the Son of the Most High and be an eternal King. But all of these things are a description of things from God's perspective. But we must remember that Mary was just a girl, probably nothing more than a teenager. She may or may not have known all the Old Testament prophecies of how the Messiah would die and how that would affect her life or the life of her unborn baby. We can only wonder what her response would have been on that road to Bethlehem if she could have seen this scene that would unfold just a few years later.

John 19:28-30 (NASB)

Therefore the soldiers did these things. But standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus then saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, "**Woman, behold, your son!**" Then He said to the disciple, "**Behold, your mother!**" From that hour the disciple took her into his own household.

This if nothing else serves to prove that God's perception of things is not always the same as ours. You see what happened in John 19:28-30 was not a glitch in God's plan. It was part of God's plan. He knew this was going to happen when the angel visited Mary and Joseph. He knew it all the way back to Genesis. But He only told them what they needed to know at the time. As the song says if she had known this at the time would she have just sat down on the side of the road and broke down in tears? Sometimes God doesn't give us the entire picture because it's too much for us to handle. But He will always give us what we need when we need it to make it through.

The Birth Of Jesus

Luke 2:1-7 (NASB)

Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth. This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And everyone was on his way to register for the census, each to his own city. Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child. While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke 2:8-20 (NASB)

In the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. "This will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased." When the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds began saying to one another, "Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us." So they came in a hurry and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger. When they had seen this, they made known the statement which had been told them about this Child. And all who heard it wondered at the things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart. The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them.