



May 10, 2009

MARY, THE MOTHER OF JESUS

I. CONSIDER THE DIFFICULTIES MARY FACED

1ST A tarnished reputation

"God's wonderful grace and his gift of forgiveness" Romans 5:15

2ND The challenge of poverty

"Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich." 2 Corinthians 8:9

3rd Seeing her child mistreated and misunderstood

"An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. 'Get up! Flee to Egypt with the child and his mother. Stay there until I tell you to return, because Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.'" Matthew 2:13

"Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from Him." Psalms 127:3

"He's a murderer from the beginning. There's no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native tongue." John 8:44 (NIV)

"Do not be deceived: Bad company corrupts good morals." 1 Corinthians 15:33 (NASB)

4th Being a single mom

“He returned to Nazareth, his hometown. When he taught there in the synagogue, everyone was amazed and said, ‘Where does he get this wisdom and the power to do miracles?’ Then they scoffed, ‘He’s just the carpenter’s son, and we know Mary, his mother, and his brothers—James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas. All his sisters live right here among us. Where did he learn all these things?’ And they were deeply offended and refused to believe in him.”
Matthew 13:54-57

II. THE RESOURCES MARY HAD

1st A strong commitment to doing God’s will

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So, the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God." Luke 1:35

“‘I am the Lord’s servant...May it be to me as you have said.’ Then the angel left her." Luke 1:38

2nd An obedient child.

"We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet was without sin." Hebrews 4:15

"Children, you are to obey your parents." Ephesians 6:1

3rd A supportive husband

"When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded. He brought Mary home as his wife." Matthew 1:24

4th A close friend who encouraged her

"In a loud voice [Elizabeth] exclaimed: `Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!'"
Luke 1:42

"Encourage one another daily as long as it is called today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness." Hebrews 3:13 (NIV)