

And Mary Pondered These Words in Her Heart

Compiled by Rick McKinney, 2025

It is evident from Mary's Magnificat, that she who conceived the Son of God in her heart and in her womb, was very familiar with the Sacred Scriptures and pondered them in her heart. The following is a listing of scriptural verses (OT) that Mary may well have pondered, some perhaps with her kinswoman, Elizabeth, whom she stayed with for three months. The verses are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition.

"So, God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them" (Gn. 1:27).

"She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man" (Gn. 2:23).

"So, when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate" (Gn. 3:6).

"Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" (Gn. 3:13)

"I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel" (Gn. 3:15).

"To the woman he said, 'I will make your pangs in childbirth exceedingly great; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you" (Gn. 3:16).

"The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living" (Gn. 3:20).

"And the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him" (Gn. 21:1-2).

"By your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you (Abraham) have obeyed my voice" (Gn. 22:18).

"Let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son... Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man, and the servant took Rebekah and went his way" (Gn. 24:44 & 61).

"Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife because she was barren, and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived" (Gn. 25:21).

“When the Lord saw that Leah was unloved, he opened her womb, but Rachel was barren. Leah conceived and bore a son, and she named him Reuben, for she said, ‘Because the Lord has looked on my affliction, surely now my husband will love me’ (Gn. 29:31-32).

“Then God remembered Rachel, and God heeded her and opened her womb. She conceived and bore a son and said, ‘God has taken away my reproach’ (Gn. 30:22-23).

“About three months later Judah was told, ‘Your daughter-in-law Tamar has prostituted herself; moreover, she is pregnant as a result of prostitution.’ And Judah said, ‘Bring her out, and let her be burned.’ As she was being brought out, she sent word to her father-in-law, ‘It was the owner of these (Judah’s signet, cord, and staff) who made me pregnant’ (Gn. 38:24-25).

“The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he (Moses) was a goodly child, she hid him three months” (Ex. 2:2).

“The cherubim spread out their wings above, overshadowing the cover (of the ark) with their wings. They faced one another; the faces of the cherubim were turned toward the cover” (Ex. 37:9).

“If a woman conceives and bears a male child, then she shall be unclean seven days, as at the time of her menstruation. On the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised” (Lv. 12:2-3).

“He (a priest) shall marry only a woman who is a virgin” (Lev. 21:13).

But if the woman has not defiled herself and is clean, then she shall be immune and be able to conceive children” (Num. 5:28).

“When a woman makes a vow to the Lord or binds herself by a pledge while within her father’s house, in her youth, and her father hears of her vow or her pledge by which she has bound herself and says nothing to her, then all her vows shall stand” (Num. 30:3-4).

“Then they shall bring the young woman out to the entrance of her father’s house, and the men of her town shall stone her to death, because she committed a disgraceful act in Israel” (Dt. 22:21).

“And the angel of the Lord appeared to the woman) and said to her, ‘Although you are barren, having borne no children, you shall conceive and bear a son’ (Samson) (Jud. 13:3).

“And now, my daughter (Boaz said to Ruth), do not be afraid, I will do for you all that you ask, for all the assembly of my people know that you are a worthy woman” (Ru. 3:11).

“After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the Lord ... for she said to her husband, ‘As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord and remain there forever’” (1 Sam 1:9 & 22).

“The Lord said, ‘Rise and anoint him, for this is the one.’ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward” (1 Sam. 16:12-13).

“David said to Abigail, ‘Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who sent you to meet me today! Blessed be your good sense, and blessed be you, who kept me today from bloodguilt and from avenging myself by my own hand’” (1 Sam. 25:32-33).

“It happened, late one afternoon when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king’s house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman (Bathsheba) was very beautiful” (2 Sam. 11:2).

“Then David consoled his wife Bathsheba (after losing their child) and went to her and lay with her, and she bore a son, and he named him Solomon (to be or make whole). The Lord loved him and sent a message by the prophet Nathan, so he named him Jedidiah” (beloved of the Lord) (2 Sam. 12:24-25).

“So, they searched for a beautiful young woman throughout all the territory of Israel and found Abishag the Shunammite and brought her to the king. The young woman was very beautiful. She became the king’s attendant and served him, but the king did not know her sexually” (1 Kgs 1:3-4).

“So, Bathsheba went to King Solomon, to speak to him on behalf of Adonijah. The king rose to meet her and bowed down to her; then he sat on his throne and had a throne brought for the king’s mother, and she sat on his right. And the king said to her, ‘Make your request, my mother, for I will not refuse you’” (1 Kgs 2:19-20).

“As soon as the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, she won his favor, and he held out to her the golden scepter that was in his hand. The king said to her, ‘What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? Even to half of my kingdom, it shall be given you’ (Es. 5:1-3).

“How then can a mortal be righteous before God? How can one born of woman be pure?” (Job 25:4).

“Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift-up their souls to what is false and do not swear deceitfully. They will receive blessing from the Lord and vindication from the God of their salvation” (Ps. 24:4-5).

“Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear (or a body you have prepared for me) Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required. Then I said, ‘Here I am, in the scroll of the book it is written of me.’ I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.” (Ps. 40:6-8).

“My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips when I think of you on my bed and meditate on you in the watches of the night, for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy” (Ps. 63:5-7).

“O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds ... your might to all the generations to come. Your power and your righteousness, O God, reach the high heavens. You who have done great things, O God, who is like you?” (Ps. 71: 17-19).

“He is mindful of his covenant forever, of the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations, the covenant that he made with Abraham, his sworn promise to Isaac, which he confirmed to Israel as an everlasting covenant” (Ps. 105:8-10).

“O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl (or handmaid). You have loosed my bonds” (Ps. 116:16).

“For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made” (Ps. 139:13-14).

“Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman (or virgin) is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel (God with us)” (Is. 7:14).

“I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my whole being shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels” (Is. 61:10).

“I will remove from your midst your proudly exultant ones, and you shall no longer be haughty in my holy mountain. For I will leave in the midst of you a people humble and lowly” (Zeph. 3:11-12).