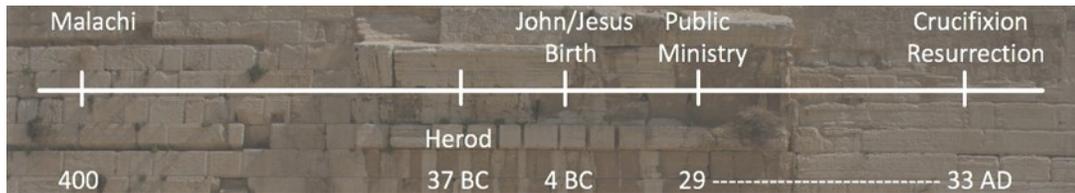




Heroes & Villains Series, No. 47: Mary, Luke 1
Mike Halpin ~ January 26, 2020

Intro: The privilege, and pain, of the fairer sex and motherhood...



Main point– *Participation in God’s work is a privilege, but one often fraught with challenges, suffering and pain. Faithfulness requires embracing the challenges along with the privilege.*

Text: Luke 1:26-56

Pew Page # 855

I. **Participation is Privilege—**

Young Mary was uniquely graced by God in being the human mother of Jesus’ humanity.

Gabriel to Mary: V 28
V 30

Elizabeth to Mary: V 42

Mary: Vs 48-49

Mary is the singular woman through whom God’s promises of a Savior would be brought into the world.

- Genesis 3:15
- Genesis 12:1-3
- Genesis 49:10
- 2 Samuel 7:12-13

Mary’s privilege was certainly great, and though very different from hers, so is ours:

- John 1:12
- Ephesians 1:3-5
- Philippians 2:13
- 1 Corinthians 12

II. Privilege is Costly—

The privilege afforded Mary was certainly great. And so were the challenges and pains.

- Luke 1:39–40, 56. When Mary left home, she wasn't married to Joseph and didn't look pregnant. When she went back, she looked pregnant, and still wasn't married to Joseph.
- Matthew 1:18–19

On top of the initial challenges, there would be pain in the future...

- Luke 2:22–35
- John 19:25

God's servants usually/often suffer:

- Job—
- Philippians 1:29
- 1 Thessalonians 3:4, 2 Timothy 1:11-12, 1 Peter 4:19

Nigerian husband, father and pastor Lawan Andimi, kidnapped JAN 3 by Islamist group Boko Haram.

III. The Pain is Worth the Privilege—

Luke 1:38

To be in the service of the Creator of the universe, the Power above all Powers, the Most High God, is a high call.

God not only allows us the privilege of participation, but he also heaps us w/ eternal rewards for that faithful participation.

- Matt 19:29
- 2 Timothy 4:8, James 1:12, Revelation 2:10, 1 Peter 5:4
- 1 Peter 4:12–13

IV. What Mary is Not—

- “mother of God”:
- “ever virgin”: Matthew 2:24; 13:55-56, Mark 3:31-32, Luke 8:19-20, John 2:12; 7:3, 5, 10
- Queen of Heaven: 2 Timothy 2:12, Revelation 2:26-27
- Our mediator: 1 Timothy 2:5, 1 John 2:1, Romans 8:26
- Co Redeemer: Acts 4:12.

What has faithful obedience cost me? _____

What has participation in God's work required of me? _____

What have I lost for the sake of Christ? _____

If we find that following Christ has cost us nothing, or very little there's a chance we're following him at a safe distance and our participation may be more in the world than in Christ's kingdom.

How do I know what God requires of me?

- God speaks to us in his word & by his Spirit; are we listening?
- God often gives us direction from other Christians.

In this life Mary received rejection, misunderstanding, loss of reputation, and incredible pain, all for the privilege of participating in God's plan of redemption.