

2. Satisfaction of soul.

Mary had lived such a life after being free and after having met Jesus that she could state "I am satisfied with Jesus." This was a part of the blessing Her whole life before had been blank, but now since she has been freed, she is absorbed in the work of Jesus. She enjoys conversation about the master. She spends her time in service for him. All of the desires of her heart were fastened upon him.

Think of the unsatisfied souls among us. Think of the lives that are marred... youth that are robbed. She found that Jesus could supply all needs, and the drudgery and the sorrow was faced with a peace and a satisfaction that only the passion of Jesus could give.

3. Her great reward was bound up in love. This was the greatest thing... her love for Jesus being poured out with an humble and a contrite heart was to be rewarded later on. As she stood by the cross with these other women, we cannot but think how early that morning when the city slept through the narrow streets, Jesus was led forth, a mob followed, and in that great company were women, wailing, weeping some of them were hard working women, who carried their children in their arms or held them by the hand. Many of the noble daughters of Jerusalem followed along. And Mary was in this group.

Her poor mind had been freed and she was telling others of Jesus. She was always willing to serve him. She was ready to give of her means. As the time of his crucifixion drew nigh, she was there standing by the cross in silence, and then we see in the evening that she goes and takes her place by the tomb and then after a sleepless night, she is back at the sepulchre again, and later we hear her say, "They have taken away my Lord" and I know not where they have laid him." And then we come to see her great reward as she stands in the (garden) and there one appears. And she recognizes that it is Jesus. What a great reward of love. She was the first to look into the face of the risen Son of God, and then to go off to the city and tell the message "The Lord is risen indeed." Love is always rewarded and as Mary, we too shall have the privilege of looking into his face. And as Paul says, "The greatest of these is love, and love never fails." And the reward of love is that we shall look into the face of Jesus.

MARY MAGDALENE (John 19:25)

Intro: As we continue the scenes around the cross, we would like to think about a woman who stood by the cross and according to Luke 23:27, she was in the group of women that followed Jesus to the cross.

I. Mary's early life

Luke 8:2

We do not know a great deal about her early life, but Luke tells us in one or two sentences that she was possessed of evil spirits. In fact, she was declared to have had seven devils, or demons. She lived in a town close to the sea of Galilee. Her name distinguishes her from the other Mary's listed in the New Testament. We have reason to believe that she was born into a good family, and that her family had money to share in the work of Jesus. The fact that she had been possessed of seven devils and then had been healed leads us to know that she was dedicated to Jesus. Somehow I do not believe that she was a real sinful woman, but that quite on the contrary, she was a good woman. Some people have identified her as the woman who was a sinner and who kissed the feet of Jesus. But as we read the story of this sinful woman, and the story of Mary Magdalene, we come to believe that she was a real devout follower of Jesus.

I suppose some people (associate Mary Magdalene) with this sinful woman in order to exhibit a great trophy of grace. Even today, some people feel that this is the way to draw a crowd... get a shameful sinner who's been converted, let him parade his vices... but it seems to me that this woman was not such, but that she had been possessed of these evil spirits, and now she had been set free.

II. The concern of Jesus for Mary Magdalene

1. Spiritual concern

I think Jesus had spiritual concern for womanhood. Only on one or two occasions, did he use any strong words at all in speaking to a woman... once in speaking to his mother at the marriage feast, and another time in speaking to Martha about needless worry over his comforts. As a rule Jesus had words of peace. Elizabeth is portrayed in the gospels as a great soul. Mary is also spoken of as a holy woman. Anna was mentioned as a great prophet.

The home life of Martha and Mary are referred to and I believe that the woman we are concerned about today knew that Jesus had spiritual concern for her. And she joined the great group around the cross. These other women were busy. Perhaps all of them were not ready to acknowledge Jesus as Messiah, but it was a manifestation of courage. He had had compassion on their children, and on the sick, and on the wounded.

Jesus is always appealing to the spiritual in womanhood. As we think of women today who teach God's word... women who gather for prayer meetings. We think of Mary standing in this group around the cross... humble women... hard working women. We cannot fail but to realize that Jesus was interested in their spiritual welfare.

2. He showed his concern through compassion Lk. 23: 26-29
Jesus was on the cross... sinless, and now he sees these women, weeping, even as he had wept over Jerusalem. Even unto this day, Jesus has compassion for the woman who goes through the trials and the furnaces of sorrow. When wars take husbands and sons, it seems to me that Jesus reaches out with his compassion, and would minister to women, and the children. Amis' Ruler - Temp. Flaw - People, Women & Children suffer most - grow - Loneliness - broken hearts -

When we think of women who have to manage on little income and in some parts of the world, their children die of starvation. When we think of women who have to bear with a rebellious and drunkard husband, who wastes his substance. When we think of women who are concerned because their children are abused and mistreated, we cannot ~~but~~ help but feel that Jesus had a compassion in his heart for womanhood. attracting them

3. He shows his concern by giving them a message. Lk. 23: 31
We see that Jesus, here at the cross with this group of women standing around, speaks to them. The howling mob, the Roman guard are practically ignored as Jesus glances toward these women. Because he knows of their loyalty, of their prayer, of their service to the sick, and that they will have a part in the fulfillment of the kingdom. And so they're instructed to dry their tears. if the King happens in the St. & contains until the end is told what will be the price. While the true is given they take the innocent & crucify him just will take place when
What if the women of this city should join the women of Jerusalem of that day, and take their place, and stand by the cross of Jesus.

Take in Day - So the message is a call to prophesy, to prophesy of Day will be remembered when you are suffering under the wrath of God -

III. Lessons we learn from Mary Magdalene.

1. Nothing to forget. This may sound strange at first but blessed is the life which has nothing to forget. Mary was not a woman with a past. I do not believe there was a person that day, standing around the cross, who had less self-reproach than she. Her early years had been (blank) and since she had been loose from the bonds, of the seven devils, she had been unflinching in her faith, in her loyalty to the things that were right and were pure.

Today there are some people who look lightly upon this idea. They have a tendency to think that a man or a woman who has not had a wild, wayward sinful, youth, is not genuine. They feel that a person with a dark story behind him is interesting. They feel that a young person who has been blameless and innocent has missed the romance of life. They feel that a woman should feel the reckless spurs of sin. Somehow, they feel that the deeper a person has gone in sin, the finer saint he becomes. To me, that is one of the lies of the devil. To think that one has to be rebellious in order to understand what it is to be a Christian. It is foolish to think that a man has to be snatched from the burning, or has to be a prodigal. In my judgment it is better for you to have nothing to forget.

Some of the (most wholesome) people you will ever know, are people who have no memories of such ungodly sin. The man who lives a dark life always has his sins finding him out. But a gentle life with no shadows to darken it will come nearer having a good disposition, a balanced temper, and will be able to walk in the paths of righteousness, and understands just as well, the power of God in forgiving sin and the power of God in service. those who love Jesus will

they had run
Who are the (strong saints) in every generation. They are young men who have kept themselves unspotted, as (Joseph) with holy dreams, as (Samuel) with his ears open to God's call as (John the Baptist) with a blameless youth, growing to old age. And sweet is the fellowship of a life that is lived in the presence of God, trying to please God, all of ones days. "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth" -- give your first thoughts to Jesus... give your first talent your first influence, and you will never regret it.

Ms. B. 1. 1. 26, 56 - Am.

4. A Monument to The Healing Power of X

If X could do this for this woman,
What could he do for you?

5. Take Advantage of Every Opportunity to be with Jesus.

(1). She was the best at the Cross.

(2). She was first at the Tomb.

When he was alive - Take Advantage of
Today will you come & stand by the
the opportunity to come & stand by the
cross!
Come & stand with M.M. by the cross!