

The Perpetual Virginity of Mary...Examined V  
By Greg Rangel

In our last article we focused on the fact that the brothers of Jesus are mentioned in Scripture. This is usually disputed through external sources, as some of you already have, for the very reason that it is the external sources that will be in support of man's false teachings, as they are on this topic. Unfortunately though, when it comes to the truth itself, we must focus on God's divine Word ALONE and not on man's teachings because what matters is what God has to say about it and not what man says, regardless who they might be.

There has to come a time in our life in which we have to face the facts and be honest with ourselves and admit that the possibility of being wrong with our spiritual beliefs does exist. And there has to come a time as well in which we have to place our spiritual beliefs in the light of Scripture. Failure to do so will only place us in the same position that the religious Jews were in when they were going against Jesus (see Matthew 15:3-9). The religious Jews were so convinced that what they believed was true because it was tradition that they had, when in reality they were so blinded by their tradition. This is the same attitude that has come so blatantly across from some of you readers when commenting on my articles. We will deal with your comments soon enough.

We have already provided ample evidence to support the fact that Mary did not remain a virgin, as traditionally believed, and had other children. There is much more Scriptural evidence that shows us the same thing. But one of the final pieces of evidence that I would like to use is found in the Messianic Psalms.

Psalms 69 is known as one of the many Psalms that speak directly about the Messiah. Within this Psalm we have the undisputable statement which speaks about Mary having other children. Psalm 69:8 says, "*I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children.*"

In the above reference we see the animosity that the Messiah was going to experience with His half brothers (Mary & Joseph's children). Lest someone dare to say that this Psalm does not speak about the Messiah, let us compare the verses within Psalm 69 to the New Testament (see the following references): Psalm 69:4 is fulfilled in John 15:18-25; Psalm 69: 8 is fulfilled in John 7:3-5; Psalm 69:9 is fulfilled in John 2:13-17; Psalm 69:3, 21 is fulfilled in Matthew 27:48; Psalm 69:25 is fulfilled in Acts 1:20.

Once again, Scripture does not allow for the argument that the brethren of Jesus mentioned are cousins. If you will continue to use such argument, then the argument must be applied to the rest mentioned as well. In that case, if brethren & sisters are cousins, then Mary is Jesus' aunt and Joseph his uncle. What would that make his disciples? Neighbors?

Did Mary remain a virgin as commonly believed by many? Not according to the Bible. We have seen that Joseph did not know Mary intimately until after the birth of Christ (Matthew 1:19-25). We have also seen that due to their union the Lord blessed them with children (Psalm 113:9, 127:3). These children are mentioned in Scripture as being Jesus' brothers and sisters (Matthew

12:46-50, 13:53-58, John 7:1-5). We have also seen that if Mary had kept herself intimately from Joseph, she would have violated the pact of marriage found in Scripture (Genesis 2:18, 21-25, 1 Corinthians 7:1-5). As previously mentioned, there is nothing blasphemous about this. What is blasphemous is failing to believe in what the Bible says.

The perpetual virginity of Mary in the light of Scripture does not exist, regardless if we want to believe it or not, or like it or not. Man's opinions cannot and will never replace God's divine truth. So therefore get into the Word of God so that you might compare your beliefs with it.

One final thing. Not only because we are prone to "sincerely" believe in something does it mean that what we believe is true. We can be "sincerely" deceived in what we believe. And solely because we have received traditional beliefs from our fathers does it mean that they are true either. "Receiving" traditional beliefs is not a qualification for truth, the Bible is. Therefore be a Berean (Acts 17:11).