



and that's... **The Gospel Truth!!** with Pat Corn

a brief message of encouragement to make your day just a little bit brighter

During the Christmas season the inevitable battle rages between the commercial spirit and true spirit of Christmas. I spent two hours with my daughter, Ashley, yesterday negotiating for a parking place at the local mall. Our search for her beau a meaningful Christmas gift seemed fruitless. For me though, it was a chance to spend two hours with the other woman in my life. She's a busy lady with all of her college studies and her job responsibilities. I'm really proud of her. She has always maintained a reputation of stability with her friends and is known, among those who know her, as a "real" Christian. But at eighteen years of age I wondered, "if she came to me and told me that an angel had visited her and told her that she would bear a child in her virginity that would be the Savior of the world....??" I'd probably start scurrying to find the phone number to the nut house!! This kid is seriously delusional!!

Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene have composed a song that will be a classic forever, asking the question, "Mary, Did You Know...??" If you have ever heard it, you know that the melody will sweep you up in its tenderness and the lyrics are absolutely profound. Let me share them conversationally with you:

"Mary did you know, that your baby boy would one day walk on water? Mary did you know, that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters? Did you know, that your baby boy has come to make you new? This Child that you delivered, will soon deliver you!

Mary did you know, that your baby boy will give sight to the blind man? Mary did you know, that your baby boy would calm a storm with His hand? Did you know, that your baby boy has walked where angels trod And when you kiss your little baby, you've kissed the face of God? Oh, Mary did you know? Mary did you know?

The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the dead will live again. The lame will leap, the dumb will speak praises of the Lamb?

Mary did you know, that your baby boy is Lord of all creation? Mary did you know, that your baby boy will one day rule the nations? Did you know, that your baby boy was Heaven's perfect Lamb? And this sleeping Child you're holding is the Great I AM."

Did she know? Yes, she knew. An angel came to her to tell her. This encounter is recorded in the Bible in the book of Luke, Chapter 1 verses 28-38 and is as follows:

The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "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.

Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God." "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

Well Mary certainly knew the bottom line, her child would be Lord of all creation. She may have had no idea of the details of his encounters with the world, or the dynamics of the process of becoming the Savior of the world, but she knew the most important thing of all; Jesus Christ would be Lord of all, Savior of the world, and He would be her baby boy.

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Your comments or questions are always welcome. Email them to: patcorn@maizeone.com

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