

Luke 10:39

And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word.

First off, Merry Christmas Eve and Merry Christmas; or as I prefer to say, “Happy Birthday **JESUS**” ~<{:O)

I pray you are all having a wonderful time with your friends and family, but most important, that you are having a wonderful time with the Guest of Honor, **JESUS!!!**

I say this because even though our heads may be in a right frame of mind, with doing all the celebration, with the business of shopping, going and visiting friends and family, wrapping gifts, opening gifts, and since this years Christmas is on a Sunday, going to church on Christmas Eve, and Christmas day.

Yet some won't do both because they feel, “*Hey I went on Saturday for Christmas Eve, I did my duty and paid my respects to Jesus.*” If this is you, then you have missed the entire Christian celebration of Christmas. For us it should not be about gifts and the busyness of the day, but rather we should be more like Mary. No not the virgin Mary who is Jesus' mother, but rather the Mary spoken of in today's verse.

I think we all know the story, but let me share it with you once again, so we are all on the same page.

† **Luke 10:38-42** *Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me." And Jesus answered and said to her, "**Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.**"*

How many are like Martha during Christmas? I think a lot of us are, and I include myself in this because even though we may not be preparing the Christmas dinner, or cleaning the house and getting ready for guests. Yet, how many of us are so caught up in the whole Christmas Story (Which is not a bad thing) yet in our busyness of the story, we neglect the One Who the story is about, **JESUS**.

Think of it this way. Say it's your birthday and everyone comes over and tells the story of how your parents met, and how the entire 9 months was while your mom was pregnant, and the whole story of how they just made it to the hospital, or how your mom was in labor for 26 hours before you were born. Yet in all these years, you have accomplished so many things in your life, yet

everyone only focuses on your birth every year instead of your accomplishments on your birthday.

I know that sounds crazy, and I don't want to belittle the celebration of Jesus that we do, and how we tell our children and grandchildren the story of Jesus conception through the Holy Spirit and His birth, because we should be telling them. Yet how many things has Jesus done in your life and the life of so many others over the last 2,000 years? Yes, we should celebrate and talk about what God did to bring His Son Jesus into this world, but we should also be bragging on the things Jesus has done in our lives since we became saved.

Jesus saved me when I was 19 (I'm now in my early 60's) and there are so many things Jesus has done, and walked with me throughout the years. So many failures on my part, and Jesus was always there, waiting for me to come to my senses and return to Him.

He has cleansed me of all my sins (and there are many).

He has blessed me with eternal life that I am so looking forward to spending with God and Jesus in heaven.

He has blessed me with a wonderful wife and four kids and four grandkids.

He has blessed me to teach his word, and has for over 20 years now.

He has blessed me with the ability to write and record worship songs for His glory, and so that others can join me in worshipping God and Jesus in song.

He has always provided for me and my family.

He has never let me down, even though so many times I have let Him down.

He has saved my family, and my dad, mom, grandpa and grandmas are all in heaven right now, because they were all Christians.

He has used me to minister to others in so many different ways.

He has been changing me over the years into the godly man that I have become so far.

That's just a little of what I celebrate today. Yes I will celebrate the birth of my Savior **JESUS**, but also all that He has done in my life over the years, because He was born, but also died and rose from the dead and is right now at the Right Hand of the Father in heaven.

One thought is that we should all be reading the story of Jesus' birth from the bible in the book of Luke chapters 1 & 2, but we should also be reading them the reason why Jesus came and what He did in Isaiah 53.

Today, celebrate the birth of Jesus, but also celebrate the Savior, Jesus and all He has done for you and billions of others!!!

† **Luke 1:1-4** *Inasmuch as many have taken in hand to set in order a narrative of those things which have been fulfilled among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word delivered them to us, it seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write to you an*

orderly account, most excellent Theophilus, that you may know the certainty of those things in which you were instructed.

- † Acts 13:32-33 (MSG) *And we're here today bringing you good news: the Message that what God promised the fathers has come true for the children—for us! He raised Jesus, exactly as described in the second Psalm: My Son! My very own Son! Today I celebrate you!*
- † Luke 1:46-47 (MSG) *And Mary said, I'm bursting with God-news; I'm dancing the song of my Savior God.*
- † 1 Thessalonians 4:1 (MSG) *One final word, friends. We ask you—urge is more like it—that you keep on doing what we told you to do to please God, not in a dogged religious plod, but in a living, spirited dance.*