



**“Where Have All The Heroes Gone? –
A Look At Mary” * December 20, 2009**

LESSONS ON HEROISM REVEALED BY MARY

**Lesson #1 – A Godly Hero Doesn’t _____ From The
_____ Things God Asks Of Us But Trusts In God’s Help**

I. The word “favored” here is related to what word?

Protestants say this verse means:

Catholics say this verse means:

*This particular word is used one other time in the Bible in Eph.1:6.
What does it mean there?*

II. Why does Mary need this grace?

Was Jesus’ birth the hardest part of Mary’s assignment?

III. What difficulties and challenges am I facing right now?

HEBREWS 4:14-16 – “SINCE WE HAVE A GREAT HIGH PRIEST...JESUS THE SON OF GOD...LET US THEN APPROACH THE THRONE OF GRACE WITH CONFIDENCE TO THAT WE MAY RECEIVE MERCY AND FIND GRACE TO HELP US IN OUR TIME OF NEED.”

**Lesson #2 – A Godly Hero _____ Themselves Before
God And _____ His Will**

I. What does it mean to “submit” to God?

IT MEANS THAT MY WILL, DESIRES AND DREAMS MUST _____;
GOD’S WILL, DESIRES AND DREAMS MUST _____.

II. What is the first great truth of life?

And what is Urban Meyer doing about it?

III. Mary had to submit to God in becoming Jesus’ mother. What was her next huge hurdle? (And what is one of the greatest Catholic errors?)

IV. Living life well requires that we hold two ideas in tandem:

*A. We must never stop casting _____ for our lives,
setting _____, chasing down our _____.*

*B. We must learn to _____ in the will of God and be
_____ with what he gives us.*

C. An example: Sir Paul McCartney

“NOW LISTEN, YOU WHO SAY, ‘TODAY OR TOMORROW WE WILL GO TO THIS OR THAT CITY, SPEND A YEAR THERE, CARRY ON BUSINESS AND MAKE MONEY,’. WHY, YOU DO NOT EVEN KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN TOMORROW. WHAT IS YOUR LIFE? YOU ARE A MIST THAT APPEARS FOR A LITTLE WHILE AND THEN VANISHES. INSTEAD, YOU OUGHT TO SAY, ‘IF IT IS THE LORD’S WILL, WE WILL LIVE AND DO THIS OR THAT.’”
JAMES 4:13-15

D. What about me? What do I need to work on in 2010?



*“Where Have All The Heroes Gone? –
A Look At Mary” * December 20, 2009*

LESSONS ON HEROISM REVEALED BY MARY

Lesson #1 – A Godly Hero Doesn’t Shrink From The Difficult Things God Asks Of Us But Trusts In God’s Help

I. The word “favored” here is related to what word?

The word “favored” here is related to the word “grace”. It could be translated, “Greetings you who are highly graced.”

Protestants say this verse means:

In our Bibles the suggestion is that Mary is given favor or grace by God in that he chooses her. And this is what Protestants believe the verse is saying. That God is full of grace to her.

Catholics say this verse means:

In the Rosary prayer the suggestion is that Mary is the source of grace and favor, she is “full of grace” which she will then pour upon believers who pray to her.

This particular word is used one other time in the Bible in Eph.1:6.

What does it mean there?

Here, we are the “graced ones” on whom God pours his favor. God the Father freely gives us grace in Jesus. In this story, Mary is the “graced one”, on whom God pours his favor. Luke writes this passage not to urge us to seek Mary for her grace, but to seek God for His grace.

II. Why does Mary need this grace?

Because what God is going to ask of her is something more difficult than anything she could possibly imagine.

Was Jesus’ birth the hardest part of Mary’s assignment?

The hardest part of what God was asking Mary to do did not surround the circumstances of this child’s birth, but would surround the circumstances of this child’s death.

III. What difficulties and challenges am I facing right now?

Whatever they are, Jesus will give us his grace and help to see us through.

HEBREWS 4:14-16 – *“SINCE WE HAVE A GREAT HIGH PRIEST...JESUS THE SON OF GOD...LET US THEN APPROACH THE THRONE OF GRACE WITH CONFIDENCE TO THAT WE MAY RECEIVE MERCY AND FIND GRACE TO HELP US IN OUR TIME OF NEED.”*

Lesson #2 – A Godly Hero Humbles Himself Before God And Submits To His Will

I. What does it mean to “submit” to God?

IT MEANS THAT MY WILL, DESIRES AND DREAMS MUST DECREASE; GOD’S WILL, DESIRES AND DREAMS MUST INCREASE.

II. What is the first great truth of life?

***I am small.* And honestly, the only way that our short, fragile, pitiful lives will mean a thing in the end is if we are clinging to something which lasts, which is eternal. And there’s only one thing I can think of which qualifies. “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever,” the Bible says.**

And what is Urban Meyer doing about it?

He developed a brain cyst ten years ago that is aggravated by stress, so he’s making a choice, and walking away from \$24 million and a football juggernaut, choosing health, God, life, and family instead. Now that’s a heroic decision if you ask me, especially in this culture, where power and money and fame and celebrity are what matters most.

III. *Mary had to submit to God in becoming Jesus' mother. What was her next huge hurdle? (And what is one of the greatest Catholic errors?)*

Perhaps the greatest Catholic error of all is in their believing that Mary's role as the "Mother of God" would grow larger over time, to the point where today in many a Catholic's mind, Mary is larger than Jesus himself. When the fact of the matter is, what the Bible clearly teaches is that Mary's role as Jesus' mother would grow smaller and smaller, until Jesus is no longer her son, but becomes her Savior. And Mary, bless her heart, submits to this.

IV. *Living life well requires that we hold two ideas in tandem:*

A. *We must never stop casting **vision** for our lives, setting **goals**, chasing down our **dreams**.*

B. *We must learn to **rest** in the will of God and be **content** with what he gives us.*

C. *An example: Sir Paul McCartney*

If Paul McCartney, who is not a Christian, who lost the love of his life Linda to cancer a few years ago, and recently went through an ugly, bitter divorce with another woman, and has watched his friends John and George leave this earth, if Paul can still sing at 67 of having childlike wonder, then so should you and me.

"NOW LISTEN, YOU WHO SAY, 'TODAY OR TOMORROW WE WILL GO TO THIS OR THAT CITY, SPEND A YEAR THERE, CARRY ON BUSINESS AND MAKE MONEY,'. WHY, YOU DO NOT EVEN KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN TOMORROW. WHAT IS YOUR LIFE? YOU ARE A MIST THAT APPEARS FOR A LITTLE WHILE AND THEN VANISHES. INSTEAD, YOU OUGHT TO SAY, 'IF IT IS THE LORD'S WILL, WE WILL LIVE AND DO THIS OR THAT.'"
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D. *What about me? What do I need to work on in 2010?*