



## Miriam

Many of us in the Messianic Movement have not only thrown out the baby, Yeshua\*, with the Christmas bathwater, but we have thrown out His mother Miriam (Mary) as well. This is because we have not been able to identify with her position in church movements. Either she has been the Holy Mother towering over the Catholic and Orthodox Church or the one Protestants have relegated to the sidelines in obscurity rather than admit that they don't know what to do with her. Both positions are wrong. Miriam is a picture and model of the End Time Bride and we have much to learn and imitate from her pure faith and relationship to God.

God created men to be initiators. Women were formed to be natural receivers. Both characteristics and roles must be rooted and grounded in God or they become faulty. Men must learn to receive from God, even as women do naturally, so that the Spirit of God will energize their God-given role as initiator and not their flesh. Women on the other hand must learn to discern what and who they are receiving from and not give in to another spirit, as mother Eve did. The enemy exploited Eve's natural responsive make-up for his sinister purposes and he continues to prey on this weaker receiver-vessel to further his agenda. For this reason, the Apostle Paul says to the Ecclesia:

*For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. 2 Cor. 11:2-3*

Miriam is the supreme example of this feminine receptivity that constitutes real faith. When the Angel Gabriel announced to Miriam that she would conceive, her response was not doubt and unbelief, but a sincere question: How? This was not the how of doubt and unbelief uttered by Zacharias, but the how of faith. Therefore, the Angel Gabriel answers her:

*The Holy Ghost shall come upon you, and the power (dunamis) of the Highest shall overshadow you: therefore also that holy one which shall be born of you shall be called the Son of God. Luke 1:35*

When Gabriel tells Miriam in *Luke 1:37*: "For with God nothing shall be impossible", it actually reads in the NT Greek, "not one rhema, will be without the power (dunamis) of God." Miriam seizes the empowered rhema in true feminine faith and responds, "be it unto me according to your rhema." *Luke 1:38*

To conceive in Greek means to seize or grasp. In the likeness of the faith of her mother Sarah who laid hold of God's dunamis in order to conceive seed, *Hebrews 11:11*, Miriam both spiritually and physically grabbed hold of God's rhema seed, conceiving and giving birth to the Son of God. The Word became flesh.

Miriam is a model for us, the End-Time Bride of *Revelation 12:1*, who are called to travail to bring forth that man-child (gk; male son) who, in cooperation with the Lord, will rule the nations. This son will be the offspring of the Last Days Ecclesia-Bride made up of both Jewish and Gentile believers who have become so intimately united in spirit and in truth that they will "birth" this son who will be caught up to God to rule and reign with Him. This man-child will be that perfect man like unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Messiah. *Eph. 4:13*

*My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Messiah be formed in you, Gal. 4:19*

\* Yeshua (Hebrew) = Jesus

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