

# WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

## The Gospels

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### *Mary's Initiatory Preparation for the Annunciation*

The life of Mary is the perfect type-pattern for all women in the world whether their station be high or low. Mary was the perfect house-holder as she was also the supreme Initiate among women. Never idle, she was scrupulous in all her menial duties and when these were finished she prepared wool and linen garments for the poor. During these hours of strenuous outer activity her mind was constantly centered upon God and His glory, and the prayer which was ever carried in her heart was for the coming of the Messiah and that she might be the handmaid of the Divine One's mother.

After the Marriage Rites were concluded, the holy couple were directed by their angelic Guardians to go to Mary's former home near Nazareth where they were to abide. Although both had aspired to remain Temple-Initiates, all the purity and sanctity of Temple life was incorporated in the sanctuary-home which they established in Nazareth.

The Annunciation was the climax of the passing of the Blessed Virgin through the nine Lesser Mysteries in order that she might meet the Lord of the Sun, the Christ, in the heart of the earth, which is the work of the first of the four Greater Mysteries and has been described as the high exaltation of Mary in the Eastertide or Resurrection Season. These nine Initiations of Mary in preparation for the Annunciation are called "Novenas" by the Church as they are supposed to have occurred during a period of nine days, which is, however, purely symbolical.

The ability to comprehend the great phenomena of nature, both the visible

and the invisible forces, at work throughout the earth, requires the illumination gained by means of the nine Lesser Mysteries. There are nine strata of the earth; one of these is investigated in each of the nine Initiations. This work is traced briefly in the Genesis record of the Seven Creative Days.

It was Mary's privilege through a series of mystical experiences at this time to review this past work. As the cosmic Days were recapitulated before her, she obtained power over the element predominant in that particular earth "Day" and all the life forces connected therewith. On the "Seventh Day," as the triumphant messenger of Light, having witnessed the Fall of man and the Christed Plan for his redemption, she was caught up into the highest heaven to be "worthily robed." She was arrayed in luminous white and crowned with many sparkling jewels, which is symbolic of the radiance of her own beautiful soul body.

Upon the midnight hour of the "Eighth Day" Mary was subjected to the test given to Solomon, and like the wise king she, too, chose the highest. "Since thou hast found grace in my eyes, ask what thou wilt and it shall not be denied thee even to the half of my kingdom." Mary replied: "For myself I ask nothing, but for the human race, all. Let the Messiah be born."

Upon the "Ninth Day," again lifted up into the exaltation of the heavens, amidst the joyous songs of Angels she was crowned with the mystic inscription: "Mother of the Divine One." The glory of this divine experience had its climax in the appearance of the white Angel Gabriel with his message of the Annunciation. The Angel's coming was

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ability for music and poetry, as well.

From June 22 to July 1, Mars squares the Sun, giving an abundance of energy and the faculty of leadership, but a tendency to turn these traits into destructive channels. There is a fiery temper to be controlled, too, along with an innate opposition to constituted authority.

Venus sextiles Mars from June 23 to July 11, indicating an ambitious, aspiring, and adventurous nature, as well as an abundance of energy and business acumen. A tendency toward extravagance and over ardence in the affections will need to be controlled.

From July 23 to 27 Mercury trines Saturn and Neptune, giving a mind capable of profound thought and concentration, as well as a natural understanding of the occult. There is persistence, caution, and diplomacy to enable the native in attaining positions of trust and responsibility.

Jupiter squares Uranus from June 23 to July 12, and Pluto until July 21. A poised, deliberate attitude should be cultivated by those born during this period, as well as thrift and consideration in dealing with friends.

On June 23 and 24 Mercury sextiles Uranus, a vibratory pattern which indicates the pioneer in thought and invention. The mind is original, independent, and progressive, and the native attracts many friends. Success in literature and science is strongly favored.

The Sun sextiles Uranus from June 25 to July 11, makes the person original, inventive, and independent. Highly idealistic, these natives are natural media for bringing to our ken methods of using the finer forces of Nature.

From June 28 to July 9, Mercury sextiles Mars, bestowing a keen, sharp, and ingenious mind. The native is an enthusiastic and indefatigable worker in whatever arouses his interest, but chiefly from the material viewpoint. There is wit and humor, along with ability to do most any task with speed and facility.

The Sun trines Neptune and Saturn from July 1 to 18, intensifying the spiritual vibrations in the aura, and thus contributing to the ability to be an inspirational musician. There is also method, foresight, and organizing, executive, and diplomatic ability, so that success in political and judicial positions is favored.

From July 9 to 19 Mercury squares Neptune, suggesting that these children should strive to train the memory and keep active in constructive, helpful work.

Mercury sextiles Jupiter from July 9 to 23, giving these natives a cheerful, optimistic disposition, loved by their associates for the vital vibrations they radiate. The mind is broad, versatile, and able to reason correctly, and success in law and literature is favored.

From July 10 to July 20, Venus sextiles Jupiter and squares Neptune. The former favors health, wealth, and happiness, and indicates a jovial, generous, and hospitable disposition. There is a fondness for pleasure and travel, as well as talent for music. The square of Venus to Neptune suggests opportunities for learning consideration and kindness in partnership, as well as trustfulness and dependability.

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accompanied by a brilliant light like that of a star, together with a fragrance past all earthly sweetness. The light and perfume became a part of Mary's consciousness, and again she saw in the Eternal Records the divine plan of human redemption through the sacrifice of the Christ, together with her divine role in this supreme cosmic drama. St. Bernard described it most beautifully in a few words: "Jesus Christ, the flower of Jesse, wished to blossom from a flower, in a flower, during the season of flowers.

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