

Be Thou My Vision



Mary:

The Upward
Vison

Luke 1:46-55

Remember?

**Mary, Mary, quite contrary,
How does your garden grow?
With silver bells, and cockle shells,
And pretty maids all in a row.**

Mary I (1516-1558)

"How does your garden grow?" refers to lack of heirs, or to the common idea that England had become a Catholic vassal or "branch" of Spain. It's also said to be a punning reference to her chief minister, Stephen Gardiner. "Quite contrary" is said to be a reference to her unsuccessful attempt to reverse ecclesiastical changes affected by her father Henry VIII and her brother Edward VI. The "pretty maids all in a row" is speculated to be a reference to miscarriages or her execution of Lady Jane Grey. "Rows and rows" is said to refer to her executions of Protestants.

Mary Queen of Scots

(1542–1587)

"how does your garden grow" refers to her reign over her realm, "silver bells" referring to Catholic cathedral bells, "cockle shells" insinuating that her husband was not faithful to her, and "pretty maids all in a row" referring to her ladies-in-waiting – "The four Maries". In Disney's The Truth About Mother Goose the "silver bells" are said to "refer to the elaborate decoration on her dresses", the "cockle shells" to her love of exotic food such as cockles, with the "pretty maids all in a row" referring to her ladies-in-waiting.

Mary, the Mother of Jesus

Bells representing the sanctus bells; the cockleshells, the badges of the pilgrims to the shrine of Saint James in Spain (Santiago de Compostela) and pretty maids are nuns. But even within this strand of thought there are differences of opinion as to whether it is lament for the reinstatement of Catholicism or for its persecution.

(these citations all come from Wikipedia.com).

Contrary

2) perversely inclined to disagree or to do the opposite of what is expected or desired.

(online dictionary)

Protestants?

Mary, Mary, quite contrary,

How does your legend grow?

With imaginations and exaggerations

**She's misunderstood from head to
toe.**

Timeline

Early on, Acts/Epistles, persecution

313 Constantine Legalizes Christianity

**380 Theodosius I, Christianity is made
the official Roman state religion**

**391 Worship of all other gods is made
illegal, conversions are mandated**

Goddesses

Semetic: Ishtar

Egyptians: Isis

Greeks: Athena or Diana

Romans: Juno or Minerva

To all she was called “The Great Mother” or “The Queen of Heaven.

Jeremiah 44:18-19

“But ever since we stopped burning incense to the Queen of Heaven and pouring out drink offerings to her, we have had nothing and have been perishing by sword and famine.”

19 The women added, “When we burned incense to the Queen of ...

Jeremiah 44:18-19

Heaven and poured out drink offerings to her, did not our husbands know that we were making cakes impressed with her image and pouring out drink offerings to her?”

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Luke 1:46-55

And Mary said: “My soul glorifies the Lord ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, ⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me— holy ...

Luke 1:46-55

is his name. ⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. ⁵² He has brought down rulers from their...

Luke 1:46-55

**thrones but has lifted up the humble.
53 He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. 54 He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful 55 to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors.”**

Mary Sees...

1. God Magnified



The Magnificent

Latin: magnificent

Greek: megaluno

NIV: glorifies

Literal: to magnify

Luke 1:42-45

“Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!

43 But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy 45 Blessed ...

Luke 1:42-45

is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!”



Philippians 1:20-21

“I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted (megaluno) in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.”

Mary Sees...

- 1. God Magnified**
- 2. God of Might and Mercy**

Psalm 2:1-4

1 Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? 2 The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the LORD and against his anointed, saying, 3 “Let ...

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Psalm 2:1-4

us break their chains and throw off their shackles.” 4 The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them.”

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Mary Sees...

- 1. God Magnified**
- 2. God of Might and Mercy**
- 3. God of Memory**