



# CAPITOL COMMISSION™

## The Christian's Priority

SEPTEMBER 17, 2014

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**In the Gospel According to Luke** (AD 60-61), Luke, a Gentile, is writing to Theophilus so that he would know the exact truth and record regarding the things he had been taught about Jesus the Messiah. Luke provided numerous testimonies of Jesus' identity as the Savior and Messiah. Jesus, during His ministry, traveled to many cities sharing scripture, teaching, forgiving sin, physically healing people of demons and disease, and raising the dead. Jesus began to challenge the religious rituals of the day and most importantly preach the Kingdom of God. Jesus is over half way through His 3 year ministry when He sends His select 12 common men to heal and preach. Jesus' impact became known to the common and to the royalty. God has provided a rare glimpse of the kingdom of God through Jesus' transfiguration on the mountain to a select three apostles. Jesus now sets his sights toward Jerusalem, makes it very clear the price followers will pay to follow Him and sends seventy out to heal, preach and warn. After returning and reporting to Jesus, Jesus rejoices. Jesus traveled through the villages toward Jerusalem.

*“Now as they were traveling along, He entered a village; and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home. She had a sister called Mary, who was seated at the Lord's feet, listening to His word. But Martha was distracted with all her preparations; and she came up to Him and said, “Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to do all the serving alone? Then tell her to help me.” But the Lord answered and said to her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things; but only one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her.” (Luke 10:38-42 NASB)*

**Jesus traveled from village to village.** Jesus is now traveling to the places and villages that his handpicked 12 apostles and 70 disciples had prepared the way. In the remaining few months of Jesus' ministry Luke records more teaching and preaching and records less of a focus on the miracles of Jesus. Jesus is preparing His followers for ministry.

**Mary and Martha's home.** The village of Bethany is the home of Lazarus and his sisters, Mary and Martha. Bethany is located near the Mount of Olives, a short distance and valley away from Jerusalem. Jesus used their home for lodging many times on His short stays when near Jerusalem. Martha likely was the older of the two sisters and very concerned that Jesus, their guest, was welcomed and served properly. Martha became upset that Mary was not doing her fair share in service to their guest, Jesus. Jesus responds to the concern of Martha.

**One thing is necessary.** Jesus addresses Martha as, ‘Martha, Martha...’ By saying her name twice Jesus was addressing Martha with care, concern and affection. It was similar to how one would address a family member. In Jesus' response He was not rebuking her for preparing a meal and attempting to be of service to Him, those tasks were good and necessary to do. Jesus was teaching her that by doing that she may miss a bigger, better and eternally lasting blessing. Mary chose to be at Jesus' feet and know Him. Mary chose to be with Jesus and sought to know more about Him. Martha had not made Jesus her top priority.

### For Your Consideration:

- Do you consider yourself more of a Martha or Mary?
- Do you get so focused in Christian service that you miss the time to be at the feet of Christ?
- Do you hunger for the knowledge and to be with Jesus? Do you look for the ‘good part’ that will never be taken away?
- Additional passages: Rm. 8:28; Jer. 9:32; Jn 17:3; Eph. 4:13; Phil. 3:10-13; 2 Pet.1:3

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### BIBLE STUDIES

LEGISLATORS: SESSION OR HEARING WEDNESDAYS AT 7:30AM, STATEHOUSE RM. 44

STAFF, LOBBYISTS AND CAPITOL SQUARE COMMUNITY: WEDNESDAYS AT NOON, STATEHOUSE RM.44