

Women of Faith: In Spite of It All

Miriam: Mother for a Movement

Micah 6:4

Introduction

The Bible is full of wonderful stories of women who have exercised great faith in God and witnessed great miracles in their lives. Their stories still speak to us today as a call to remain faithful to God even during challenging times. As we conclude this series we will return, once again, to the life of Miriam for one last lesson from her life.

Life is Enduring.

Of the four details in Scripture describing Miriam's life the last one that recounts her death speaks to us about the preciousness of life and reminds us of the power of influence.

The power we have to influence others is immeasurable in both positive and negative ways. It is clearly evident that Miriam was an influencer.

A basic definition of an influencer is someone who has the power to affect the purchasing decisions of others because of his or her authority, knowledge, position, or relationship with his or her audience.

MIRIAM WAS AN INFLUENCER TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD DURING HER LIFETIME.

God elevated her to the position of an indispensable leader in the movement in a number of ways.

MIRIAM CONTINUED TO BE AN INFLUENCER EVEN AFTER HER DEATH.

Old Testament references. Some 500 years after her death the Lord mentions her influence as recorded in Micah 6:4. Then around 300 years after that she is referred to again in 1 Chronicles 6:3.

New Testament influence. Miriam's influence is indirectly evident in many places in the New Testament. The common name Mary is a derivative of Miriam.

Even after her death she continued to play a part in Israel's history with the many significant woman being named after her. Miriam's life was important to her people as evident in her lasting influence.

Being an Influencer for Jesus.

Right now you are influencing others. The question is what kind of influence are you having? Whatever it is, realize that what you are doing it is lasting.

The internet definition of an influencer relates to our impact for Jesus. As a follower of Jesus Christ:

- We have the power to effect the decisions of others.
- We have been given authority by Jesus.
- We have experiential knowledge of Jesus.
- We have been placed in a position for Jesus.
- We have a unique relationship with Jesus.

Conclusion

In death Miriam was elevated to the presence of God. But even in death, her influence points to Jesus in a number of ways. In Jesus there is freedom to live, freedom in praise, freedom from sin, and freedom over death.

Miriam's death may seem untimely to some because she did not make it to the Promised Land. However, she made it somewhere even greater.

Such freedom is the ultimate gift of all believers in Jesus Christ. His death and resurrection provides us with freedom over death itself.