

"Christ Pantokrator"

Mary Craig Ministries, Inc.

November 2015

My husband, Rev. Jim Craig, and I have just returned from a mission trip to Patmos. The call from the Holy Spirit was to "go to the Isle of Patmos and...declare the Revelation and command its fulfillment. You will call the islands of the world to repentance, to resurrection, and to renewal; and you will declare that from the rising of the sun to the going down of the same men may know there is none besides Me. Isaiah 45:6. ...I am sending you to Patmos to declare the Revelation to John in the place where he received it. Many before you have done the same...You will proclaim, not ashamedly but boldly, for I will My Word to peal as thunder through the spirit world, a reminder that the time is short...I will empower the words of this prophecy [Revelation] and all will happen according to My perfect timing and My perfect will...I will glorify My Name. I will glorify My Son. I will bring all enemies under foot...I will turn captivity captive. I will set My people free—free to worship in Spirit and in truth. I will call them out of their graves. Release restoration to them. Sow seeds of life in them. Scatter the seed of My Word into the air and I will plant the Word into hearts that are Mine."

So off we went as we were sent. These missions involve most of the people at Craighouse® Christian Fellowship, the ministry outreach of MCM. It takes a team, time, training, much research, time, trust, and perseverance. Wanda Barlow heads this up as Home-based Strategy Coordinator. There is a commissioning, one by the church and one which we call the "spiritual commissioning." And there is opposition, but resistance is overcome by the triumphing of the Cross and Christ.

This message, however, is about what I was shown on this mission. I had received: "I will show you what I want you to see. I will cause you to see. I will open your eyes to understand." I wasn't looking for anything in particular. It came about like this.

We were standing in the Greek Orthodox Church in Mykonos. The guide was talking about Mary the mother of Jesus and how people would bring offerings to Mary of gold and silver when they sought healing for themselves, for their animals, etc. Mary was spoken of as being a mediator, as bringing salvation, as sinless, as ascended, as the focus of a veneration that seemed to go beyond that into outright worship. And then, while I was listening to this, I looked up. There in the center of the Church was an icon of Christ. The icon is based on Colossians 1:15, which being translated by the Orthodox goes like this: "Christ is the icon of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation."

Christ Pantokrator was written on this icon in the ceiling, the highest point in the church. I thought, "Wow!" Here the witness goes out that Jesus Christ is the All-mighty One, the Ruler over All, the All-powerful One, the One who not only can, but does. I stood there wondering why people didn't just go directly to Jesus and ask for their healing. People in the New Testament did. They presented themselves to Jesus and called Him Kurie, or Lord; Master; Son of David. They recognized Him as a Prophet and some folks wanted to make Him king. Standing there, I couldn't remember one instance where someone went to Jesus' mother and pleaded with her for a healing or for anything else. Even in the wedding event, all it says in John 2:3 is: And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus said unto Him, They have no wine. She just presented the fact of the situation. Jesus said unto her, Woman, what have I to do with you? Mine hour is not yet come.

Jesus does as His Father says. He does the will of His Father. He answers concerning who is His mother and sisters and brothers: Whoever does the will of God is my brother, and sister, and mother. (Mark 3:35) He pointed to His disciples at the time. He defined His true family in the context of discipleship and obedience to the will of God, His Father.

Moving on. We arrived in Ephesus, Turkey; it was my third time. Paul wrote the letter to the Ephesians. Paul ministered in Ephesus. Timothy ministered in Ephesus. It is believed that John the Apostle lived there with Mary the mother of Jesus. Acts 19:23-41 describes the uproar in Ephesus when the silversmith Demetrius got angry over the fact that as Paul preached "they be no gods which are made with hands," his source of wealth was at risk. The temple of Diana, patron goddess of Ephesus, might be despised and her magnificence destroyed. All Asia and the world worshipped the goddess.

Now we went to the House of the Virgin Mary. This House of the Virgin Mary is considered to be the last dwelling place of Mary the mother of Jesus. People of the Christian faiths and of Islam both come to this site to leave prayers and to venerate and outright worship Mary the Mother of Jesus. Her favor is sought and I could hear groups calling out her name as healer, salvation, mediator, etc. The site is truly ecumenical.

The interesting thing is that Diana of Ephesus, a Roman goddess, and Artemis, a Greek goddess, and Ashtaroth, mother of the gods, goddess of fortifications, and all goddess figures back to Semiramis, wife of Nimrod, and Isis, Cybele, Kundalini, and on and on have much in common with depictions of the Virgin Mary. Some of this includes identification with the moon, star of the sea, fruitfulness, provision, the ability to bear children, queen of heaven, seat of wisdom, etc.

Another interesting thing is that I had been reading an article by Henry M. Morris, Ph.D. on "The Center of the Earth." Dr. Morris was with the Institute for Creation Research. Finding the earth's geographical center is done by computers. The earth's land areas are divided into small, equal, unit areas. Measurements are made and average distances calculated. The Bible lands are bounded roughly by Memphis (the capital of ancient Egypt) on the south and west, and Ararat on

the north and east, which include Babylon and Jerusalem as well as nearly all the cities in which OT events took place. The probability that the earth's center would happen to fall in this area is one out of 450. The exact center of the earth geographically, according to physicist Andrew J. Woods, M.S., was determined to be near Ankara (present capital of Turkey), on the same latitude as Mount Ararat and essentially the same longitude as Jerusalem. Of Mount Ararat or Babel or Jerusalem, the center is essentially equidistant, about 550 miles from Ararat and Jerusalem. "Interestingly, the earth's center at Ankara, together with Jerusalem, Ararat and Babylon form almost a perfect square." (Henry M. Morris) <u>https://www.icr.org/article/50/</u>

So what? So I have been previously to Ankara, but now in Ephesus, which is fairly close; at least as close as I might be to the center of the earth for who knows how long. I started asking God to show me if He wanted something done here.

What He showed me was the influence of the cult of Mary the mother of Jesus that covers the earth, spreading out from the center and reaching every continent. But it's more than that. The spirit behind this is the goddess spirit, not only the spirit that was in Jezebel, but all goddess spirits.

The Word of God comes against this spirit consistently. Jeremiah 7:17, 18; Jeremiah 44:19; Isaiah 47, Revelation chapters 17 and 18. This spirit is a counterfeit Holy Spirit, offering the wine of immorality and the wisdom that is earthy, sensual, and demonic. This spirit seeks to usurp what is rightfully God's and Christ's. This spirit offers serpent fire. This spirit seeks the throne of God, seducing and deceiving people into calling it the source of life and blessing, the "many-breasted one," the mother from which all life springs. This spirit perverts the truth and leads astray through perversion. This spirit seduces God's servants "to commit fornication and to eat things sacrificed unto idols" while calling herself a prophetess. (Revelation 2:20)

Seest thou not what they do in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem? The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the **queen of heaven**, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger. Jeremiah 7:17-18]

Come down, and sit in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon, sit on the ground; there is no throne, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for you shall no more be called tender and delicate...Sit silent, and get into darkness, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for you shall no more be called The lady of kingdoms."... Isaiah 47:1, 5.

Jesus Christ is God Pantokrator. It is the Greek translation of the Hebrew El Shaddai. Christ is co-equal and co-eternal with the Father, God. The Greek word Pantokrator means this, according to the lexicon:

**3841** *pantokrátōr* (from <u>3956</u> /*pás*, "all" and <u>2902</u> /*kratéō*, "prevail") – properly, *almighty*; unrestricted power exercising absolute dominion. <u>http://biblehub.com/greek/3841.htm</u>.

Pantokrator refers to God being sovereign. It refers to God as Ruler of the Universe; Ruler of All; the Almighty. It implies not just power but a God full of possibilities and potential. With

God all things are possible. God can do all things. He is Sustainer of All. Pantokrator appears in 2 Corinthians 6:18 and in Revelation 1:8, 4:8, 11:17, 15:3, 16:7, 16:14, 19:6, 19:15, and 21:22.

I'm going to let the Word speak:

Wherefore come out from among them, and be separate, says the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord **Almighty**. 2 Corinthians 6:18

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the **Almighty**. KJV Revelation 1:8

And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, LORD God **Almighty**, which was, and is, and is to come. KJV Revelation 4:8

Saying, We give thee thanks, O LORD God **Almighty**, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. KJV Revelation 11:17

And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvelous are thy works, Lord God **Almighty**; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints. *KJV Revelation* 15:3

And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God **Almighty**, true and righteous are thy judgments... For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God **Almighty**. *KJV* Revelation 16:7, 14

And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth...And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. KJV Revelation 19:6, 15

And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. KJV Revelation 21:22

We do not need to go through another mediator. Jesus Christ is Mediator between God and man. He alone is God Incarnate, without sin. Jesus did not require people to go through another to reach Him, to touch Him with the feeling of their infirmities. He alone saves. He carried our sin and bore our sorrows. He fulfilled all righteousness and came to bear the sin, bear the curse, and bear the wrath of God on behalf of those for whom He died. He rose again from the dead and ascended into heaven. He's coming back in glory. Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Remember the truth when this strong deception grows yet stronger, and stand firm in the faith.

MCM reaches out globally, locally, and online. Over the past 22 years MCM world missions has taken the gospel to 85 nations on all seven continents. Thank you for your help.

For His Glory,

Mary Craig

Mary Craig, D. Min.

And we know that the Son of God is come, and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him that is true, and we are in Him that is true, even in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen. 1 John 5:10-21

© 2015 Mary Craig Ministries, Inc. All rights reserved.

P.S. Thank you for giving to MCM! Donate: Mary Craig Ministries, Inc., P. O. Box 4610, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33338-4610 or through PayPal® online at <u>www.marycraig.org.</u> Go to marycraig.org for the latest articles and words received. Take a look and see all that God is doing through this ministry, in world missions, in evangelism, the Barnabas Project, Craighouse® Christian Fellowship, home visitation, Kinetic Koinonia, media, Bible study books available through the <u>online Catalog</u>, and more. Worship with us 4:30 p.m. Sundays. Grow and flourish in small group ministry at Craighouse® Christian Fellowship, located in the Pompano Plaza at 114 E. Mc Nab Road, Pompano Beach, FL 33060. Log on to <u>www.craighouse.org</u> for a map, current events, and Bible studies. Reach MCM at 954-491-7270. Send in your prayer requests. Follow MCM Bible teachings and Rev. Jim Craig's sermons; go to <u>www.marycraig.org</u> and click on "Audio Bible Studies" or "*Divine Appointment*" radio ministry; or go to <u>www.marycraig.org</u> for audio sermons and teachings and Friday night handout sheets. Free. Go to <u>www.marycraigverses.org</u> for "Enjoying God for Life," daily encouragement and growing in your faith. Go to <u>www.mcm.phanfare.com</u> for some pictures of MCM world missions. To have Dr. Mary Craig speak at your church or conference contact her at <u>mary@marycraig.org</u>. Mary Craig Ministries, Inc. is a 501 ( c ) (3) nonprofit corporation founded in 1993. Federal ID 65-0429517.