

The background features a repeating pattern of light yellow flowers on a light orange background. A vertical white stripe runs down the right side. In the bottom right corner, there is a brown silhouette of a person sitting at a desk and writing with a pen.

*Maru*

**Did you know?**

# Much of the world: *Reflecting back on the birth of Jesus*

Discussions, articles, sermons, movies, etc.:

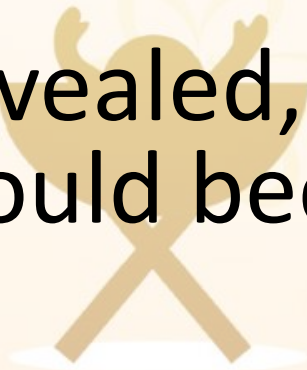
- His birthdate.
- The miracle surrounding His birth.
- “The meaning of Christmas”
- Etc.



# Its easy to look back...

## How do we look forward?

- **Mark Lowry's: *Mary, Did You Know*** that your baby boy will one day... **Matt. 14:25-26; 15:30**
  - Walk on water/save our sons and daughters
  - Give sight to a blind man/calm a storm with his hand
  - Etc.
- Unless divinely revealed, Mary could only dream of what would become of her son!



# Vantage Points and God's divine providence

- **From a human point of view:** could Mary have even dreamed how this salvation would play out?
- **In hindsight:** Mary could glory in God's salvation and how she was used by Him.
- **God's sovereignty:** He used Mary (as He does others) as a vessel to bring about salvation.



# What about us today?

- Do you ever dream of how God has/can/would use you for His service?
- How can you tell whether or not God is using you?
  - Its ***not*** a matter of ***if*** God will use you... **Rom. 9:21**
  - Its ***how*** He will use you. **Cp. 2 Tim. 2:20-21**



# Mary didn't always know... but that's okay

- She didn't always know how God would use her life in His service.
- True to her character she likely would have used her life for His glory... ready to bid His calling upon her life.
- What about you?

