

***The Life of the Apostle Peter***  
**Study # 41 D**  
***Peter's Deliverance from Prison***  
**(Acts 12:1-19)**

- I. **Peter Detained (12:1-4)**
  - A. **The Attacks on the Church (1-2; Lk. 23:7-25)**
  - B. **The Appeasement of the Jews (3)**
  - C. **The Arrest of Peter (4; 5:17-25)**
- II. **Peter Delivered (12:5-11)**
  - A. **Intercession of the Church (5)**  
**A Suffering, Supplicating, Successful Church**
  - B. **Intervention of the Lord (12:6-11)**
    1. **The Peace of Peter (6)**  
**(1 Pet. 2:23; 5:7; Ps. 42:10-11)**
    2. **The Presence with Peter (12:7-10)**
      - a. **The Appearance of the Angel**  
**(7a; Rev. 18:1; Lk. 2:8-11)**
      - b. **The Actions of the Angel (7B - 10)**
        - 1) **His Demands of Peter (7B, 8)**
        - 2) **His Demonstrations of God's Power (7C, 9-10)**
        - 3) **His Departure from Peter (10B)**
    3. **The Perception of Peter (11; 2:47)**
  - III. **Peter Doubted (12:12-17)**
    - A. **The Arrival of Peter (12)**
      1. **The Place**
      2. **The Praying**
    - B. **The Awareness of Rhoda (13 - 14)**
      1. **Her Role**
      2. **Her Recognition**
      3. **Her Rejoicing**
      4. **Her Running**
      5. **Her Report**
    - C. **The Accusation of the Church (15A)**
    - D. **The Astonishment of the Church**  
**(15B - 16; Mt 11:22-24; 1 Tim. 2:8; Heb. 11:6)**
    - E. **The Address of Peter (17)**
      1. **His Report**
      2. **His Request**
  - IV. **Peter Departing (12:17B)**  
**Postlude (12:18 - 19A)**

**Mary's House**

(12:12) Mary, Mother of John Mark: Mary was also the aunt of the missionary Barnabas (cp. Col. 4:10). This is the only clear mention of her in Scripture. She was probably a widow, for her husband is never mentioned. She was apparently wealthy, the owner of considerable property. She owned a huge house large enough for believers to hold services there. There was also a gate and a portress to greet guests who entered the home. This may point to a palace-like house (Acts 12:13. Cp. the high priest's palace, John 18:16.)

Apparently Mary was a very godly woman, a dynamic example for all women of every generation. As will be seen she was also a godly mother, rearing her son John Mark in the gospel. She eventually encouraged him to commit his life to missions just as Paul and Barnabas, his cousin, had done. *P.O.S.B.*

**ΑΩ**

**damsel (v. 13)** - Gk., *paidiske*, a young female servant.

**mad (v. 15)** - Gk., *mainomai*, "to be mad, rave like a madman." Jesus is accused of such in John 10:20. Paul is likewise accused of speaking like a madman in his defense before the governor Festus. See also 1 Cor. 14:23. *Expository Dictionary of Bible Words*

**astonished (v. 16)** - Gk., *existemi*, "to put (stand) out of wits, i.e. astound, or (reflexive) become astounded, insane, amaze, be (make) astonished, be beside self (selves), bewitch, wonder." *Strong's*

**beckoning (v. 17)** - Gk., *kataseio*, "to sway downward, i.e. make a signal." *Strong's*

**CONCLUDING APPLICATIONS FOR THE ENTIRE CHAPTER**

- **Serving God does not guarantee us an exemption from suffering.**
- **As we shall see, we may rest securely in the knowledge that we are in God's hand!**
- **It is good to believe in prayer. It is better to pray!**
- **While I breathe, I hope. It is never too late for God!**
- **Sometimes God may ask us to fight, sometimes he may expect us to flee.**