

“Baby Jesus destroys the idols in Egypt” (Mary of Agreda)

641. The flight into Egypt by the Holy Family contained other mysteries above the fact that Herod was looking to kill the Messiah. Isaiah wrote:

Is 19:1 An oracle concerning Egypt. Behold, the LORD is riding on a swift cloud and comes to Egypt; and the idols of Egypt will tremble at His presence, and the heart of the Egyptians will melt within them.

The Angels lead the Holy Family through different places within Egypt so they might pass and give the Egyptians miracles and blessings. Thus the journey consumed more than fifty days. The distance of their journey from Jerusalem amounted to more than two hundred leagues, (two hundred walking hours.). While by a direct route it would have been shorter.

642. Egypt was much given to idolatry and superstition. Even the small villages of this country were full of idols. In many of these places temples had been built where the demons dwelt. And the inhabitants, instructed by these demons, gathered in them to offer sacrifices. While the demons answered their prayers by revealing things only the demons could know, thus obtaining full control of this foolish and superstitious nation. Weighed down in these errors, only the strong arm of the Lord (which is the Word become Man) could rescue these enslaved people and deliver them from

evil. It was a harder and more dangerous slavery than that in which the Egyptians had held the people of Israel.

Ex 1:8 Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph.

1:9 And he said to his people, “Behold, the people of Israel are too many and too mighty for us.

1:10 Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and, if war befall us, they join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.”

1:11 Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with heavy burdens; and they built for Pharaoh store-cities, Pithom and Ra-amases.

In order to obtain this deliverance Jesus appeared in Egypt in the arms of His most fortunate Mother, and that He journeyed and passed through this country, illumining it everywhere by the power of His divine light.

643. On entering the towns the divine Infant, in the arms of His Mother, raised His eyes and His hands to the Father asking for the salvation of these inhabitants held captive by the demons and Satan. And immediately He made use of His divine power and expelled Satan from the idols and hurled them to the infernal abyss. Like lightning flashed from the clouds they darted forth and descended to the lowermost caverns of hell and darkness. At the same instant the idols crashed to the ground, the altars fell

to pieces, and the temples crumbled to ruins. The cause of this destruction was known to the heavenly Lady, for She united Her prayers with those of Her most holy Son. Saint Joseph also knew this to be the work of his Son Jesus. He praised Him in holy admiration. But Satan, although they felt the divine power, knew not whence this power proceeded.

644. The Egyptian people were astounded at these unexplained happenings. But some of the educated knew of an ancient tradition that a King of the Jews would come and the temples and the idols would be destroyed. This prophecy the common people had no knowledge, nor did the learned know how it was to be fulfilled. Therefore terror and confusion was spread among all of them because their idols were destroyed. In this disturbance and fear, some reflecting on these events, came to our great Lady and saint Joseph. And in their curiosity at seeing these strangers in their midst, they also spoke to them about the ruin of their temples and their idols. Making use of this occasion the Mother of wisdom began to educate these people, speaking to them of the true God and teaching them that He is the one and only Creator of heaven and earth, who is alone to be adored and acknowledged as God. That all others are but false and deceitful gods, nothing more than the wood, or clay, or metal, having neither eyes, nor ears, nor any power. The same crafters that made them, or anyone else could destroy them at pleasure; since any man is more noble and powerful. The revelations that these idols gave were answered by the demons

within them. These demons had no real power other than the power God gives them, since there is but one true God.

645. The heavenly Lady was so sweet and kind in Her words, and at the same time so full of life and force. Her appearance was so charming, and all Her conversations were accompanied by such spiritual effects. The rumor of the arrival of these strange travelers quickly spread about in the different towns. Many people gathered to see and hear Them. Moreover, the powerful prayers of Jesus produced a change in their hearts. Instilling into their minds knowledge of the true God and sorrow for their sins. The Egyptians didn't know where or through whom these blessings came.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph traveled through many towns of Egypt, performing these and many other miracles, driving out the demons not only from the idols, but out of many bodies possessed by them. Curing many that were grievously and dangerously ill, enlightening the hearts of these people by the doctrines of truth. By these benefits many were drawn to listen to the instructions of Mary and Joseph concerning a good and spiritual life.

646. They arrived at Hermopolis, and is called by some the city of Mercury. In it there were many idols infested by powerful demons. One of them dwelt in a tree at the entrance of the city. For the people had begun to venerate this tree on account of its size and beauty. The demon had taken occasion to erect his seat in it. When Jesus came within sight of this tree, not only was the demon hurled from his seat and cast into hell, but the tree bowed down to the ground,

as if rejoiced by its good fortune. The memory of this event remained for centuries, for the leaves and fruits of this tree cured many sicknesses. The majority of miracles were performed in Heliopolis by our Lord Jesus. This city was called city of the sun, and is now called Cairo, the grand.

647. I (Mary of Agreda) asked the great Queen in astonishment how She could have traveled with the Child through so many strange cities? For it appeared to me that She thereby prolonged the labors and hardships of their journey. And our Lady replied: "Do not wonder that My most holy Son and I journeyed so far in order to gain souls. For the sake of even one soul, if possible, and if there would be no other way, We would willingly travel the whole world."

648. Lucifer was highly disturbed at all the destruction in Egypt. Furiously enraged, He roamed throughout the country, where so many temples and altars of his idols had been overthrown. Reaching Heliopolis, the largest of the cities and the scene of the greatest destruction, he sought to find out who did this. He found nothing new, except that most holy Mary had arrived in the city. Of the Infant Jesus he made no account, deeming Him a child just like all the rest of that age. Lucifer had been so often conquered by the virtues and holiness of the Virgin Mother, he was seized with new anxiety; although he considered a woman far too insignificant to destroy the idols. Yet he decided to persecute Her.

649. He therefore returned immediately to hell and calling a meeting of his fellow devils, told them of the destruction of the

temples and idols in Egypt. For these devils had been hurled by the divine power from their habitations with such suddenness and confusion they were unable to know the condition of the idols and temples which they were forced to leave. Lucifer, informed them of all destruction. Lucifer also feared the ruin of his rule in Egypt and he told them that he couldn't determine who or what caused this. Lucifer had found only that Woman, his enemy. (*The name "enemy" is what the dragon called the most holy Mary*); He knew that Her power was something he never seen before, yet he did not presume it to be so great as to account for such destruction. Lucifer wished them to begin a new war against Her and the devils should prepare themselves for it. The armies of Lucifer proclaimed their readiness to obey, agreeing with him in his desperate fury and promising him victory, not understanding that their power was no match for the Mother of God. Such was their arrogance.

650. Many legions of devils accordingly left hell and took themselves to the place where the Queen of heaven was at that time. They began to suspect that God had used the most holy Mary as His instrument in causing all their losses. They thought they could make up for their defeat and restore their rule if they succeeded in overcoming Her. But they were astonished to find that when they attempted to approach Her in order to begin their evil temptations, they couldn't come nearer to Her than a distance of two thousand paces. For they were restrained by the power of God, which they perceived issuing forth from the

heavenly Lady Herself. Although Lucifer and the evil armies struggled violently, they were paralyzed and as if bound in strong shackles. Mary witnessed their struggles while holding in Her Arms God Himself. Lucifer was suddenly hurled into the abyss of hell with all his squadrons of devils and wicked spirits the demons. This defeat and ruin filled the dragon with boundless torture and frustration. He began to have new misgivings, whether the Messiah had arrived into the world. But since he knew nothing of the mystery and expected the Messiah to come in great splendor and fanfare, he remained in uncertainty and doubt. He was consumed with the desire to find out the cause of his sufferings, and the more he questioned the more he couldn't determine the true cause which only caused torment, fury and wrath within him.

Words of enlightenment from Mother Mary.

651. My daughter, great and above all else should men value faith, and with faith serve the Lord of lords and the God of gods. God alone holds power and dominion over all creation and who triumphs and reigns over His enemies. The soul is delighted in assurance of obtaining God because of faith, with the memory being refreshed with knowledge of everlasting life. The soul rejoices and all the powers of the soul enjoy the sweetness of study and prayer. For the soul is entirely overcome with this supreme Goodness and Holiness. O how many blessings do those men lose who are forgetful of their true happiness God

eternal. Evil men use all the time of their life and all their powers in obtaining visible things. Such foolishness in pursuing the present pleasures and seeking the apparent worldly treasures! In the knowledge and light given to you I would wish, my daughter, that you withdraw yourself from this danger. Your soul must occupy the reality of the existence of your God. Humble yourself repeating everyday, "Who is like to God our Lord, that dwells on high and looks upon the humble in heaven and on earth?"

Ps 113:5 Who is like the LORD our God,
who is seated on high,

113:6 who looks far down upon the
heavens and the earth?

113:7 He raises the poor from the dust, and
lifts the needy from the ash heap,

113:8 to make them sit with princes, with
the princes of his people.

Who is like to Him, that is almighty and depends upon no one? That humbles the proud, and casts down those whom the ignorant world calls powerful. That triumphs over the devils and hurls them to the abyss of hell?

652. In order that your heart may contemplate these truths and attain a greater power over the enemies, I wish that, as far as is possible, you imitate Me, appreciating in the victories and triumphs of His mighty arm. Gain for yourself a share in those which Jesus gains over this hateful dragon. No created tongue, not even the seraphim, can describe what My Soul felt when I beheld My most holy Son working such wonders against His enemies for the benefit of souls. In this jubilation I celebrated the Lord's works.

In the company of My Son I composed new hymns of praise as His Mother and as Spouse of the Holy Ghost. You (Mary of Agreda) are a daughter of the holy Church and a spouse of My most blessed Son, favored by His grace. It is therefore just that You be zealous in gaining this glory and honor for Him, striving against His enemies and battling for the triumphs of your spouse Jesus.