

- I. The setting (vv. 38-39a)
 - A. The literary context
 - B. The geographic context
 - C. The people
 - 1. The “not-so-silent” sister – Martha
 - 2. The silent sister – Mary
 - 3. The Savior
- II. The conflict (vv. 39b-40)
 - A. The contrasting choices (vv. 39b-40a)
 - 1. Mary’s choice (v. 39b)
 - a. Her dedication
 - b. Her action – “hearing”
 - 2. Martha’s choice (v. 40a)
 - a. Her distraction
 - b. Her action – “serving”
 - B. The complaining challenge (v. 40b)
 - 1. Concerning Jesus’ care
 - 2. Concerning Mary’s help
 - 3. Concerning Jesus’ command
- III. The resolution/conclusion (vv. 41-42)
 - A. Jesus’ care for Martha (v. 41a)
 - B. Jesus’ correction of Martha (v. 41b)
 - 1. Her care about many things
 - 2. Her trouble about many things
 - C. Jesus’ commendation of Mary (v. 42)
 - 1. His assessment of her choice
 - 2. His answer to Martha