

I. Christmas – The Miracle of Coming of the Son of God

A. The Coming of the Son of God:

1. *He (Jesus) indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you (1Peter 1:20).*
2. This had been prophesied some 700 years prior by the prophet Isaiah: *Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel - (Isaiah 7:14: 9:6-7).* (Immanuel = 'God with us' (Mat 1:23))

II. The Angel Gabriel, once again, sent by God – Luke 1:26-38

A. Gabriel, on assignment...

1. Gabriel's first recorded assignment was first in the book of Daniel 8&9.
2. His second assignment was to Zechariah (John the Baptist's father) in Luke 1.
3. In today's text: *Sent by God... to Nazareth... to a virgin ... betrothed to Joseph... of the lineage of David... whose name was Mary.*

B. Gabriel's Message for Mary

1. *Rejoice, highly favored one... The Lord is with you...*
2. Known and loved by God; shown by the fact that Gabriel was sent to Mary with the salutation *"highly favored one"* confirmed Mary's special-ness to God;

C. Mary was troubled, didn't understand and tried to discern what he was saying... (v.29).

1. Gabriel reassured her & gave detail saying, *Mary, you have found favor with God (v.30).*
2. Gabriel told Mary the incredible details of God's plans (v.31-33).
 - a. *You will conceive and bear a son and you shall call his name Jesus.*
 - b. *He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.*
 - c. *The Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.*
 - d. *He will reign over the house of Jacob forever.*
 - e. *And of His kingdom there will be no end.*
3. It all seemed impossible... More questions; *"How can this be?"*
 - a. Mary sees the physical impossibility of what the angel is saying...(v.34)
 - b. The ability comes by the *power of the Holy Spirit* (v.35);
 - c. *For with God nothing will be impossible – or, 'For no word of God shall be void of power.'*
(When God speaks, there is power to accomplish it's purpose)

D. Mary's choice – Submit to God and His will, or not...

1. *I'm Your servant Lord - Have Your way and will in my life; (Let it be to me according to your word)*
2. Cooperation, openness, faith, trust...yielding.

III. Parallel application to our lives - In a very real way, God comes to each of us with the desire that His life be 'birthed' in us, by the Holy Spirit, for His glory and purposes.

A. Like Mary - We are...

1. Chosen... *chosen by God and precious* (1Peter 2:4);
2. Greatly loved... *who shall separate us from the love of Christ... - nothing, no one!* (Rom.8:35,38,39)
3. Blessed... *God, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,* (Ephesians 1:3).

B. Like Mary - God wants to manifest His life in and thru us... we may be 'troubled' as she was...

1. We may ask, "How can this be?" (because of our own failures, etc)

C. God's purposes are always accomplished by His power - by the power of the Holy Spirit!

1. God awaited Mary's response... and God waits for our response....
2. May it be as Mary's was - *Behold Your servant - be it unto me according to Your word!*