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Luke 1:26-38 *And in the sixth month [of Mary's cousin Elisabeth's pregnancy] the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, ²⁷To a virgin espoused [engaged] to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And the angel came in unto her [the angel appeared right in front of her], and said, "Hail [Greetings], thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women." ²⁹And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be [Mary was confused and disturbed, and didn't understand what the angel meant by this greeting]. ³⁰And the angel said unto her, "Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God. ³¹And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. ³²He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father¹ David: ³³And he shall reign over the house of Jacob [over the nation and people of Israel] forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." ³⁴Then said Mary unto the angel, "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man [since I am still a virgin]?" ³⁵And the angel answered and said unto her, "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. ³⁶And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her [this is the sixth month of her pregnancy], who was called barren [who has been unable to have children until now]. ³⁷For with God nothing shall be impossible." ³⁸And Mary said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord [I consider myself to be the servant of the Lord]; be it unto me according to thy word [let what you said happen to me exactly as you explained it]." And the angel departed from her.*

I. Introduction

A. Elizabeth wife of Zacharias the priest

1. 6 months pregnant with John the Baptist
2. Lived in hill country of Judah near Jerusalem in central Israel

B. Angel Gabriel sent to Mary

1. She lived in Nazareth in northern Israel
2. She told angel that she did not see how she could get pregnant without a man being involved

¹ The word "father" here means "ancestor" in the context of the verse. The Greek language of that day did not have words for such relationships as "grandfather" or "ancestor" like we do in modern English. The context of the sentence determined the meaning of the word.

II. Message of the King

A. Given by heavenly messenger (the angel Gabriel)

1. Gabriel sent 6 months earlier to Zacharias to announce arrival of John the Baptist

Luke 1:19 *And the angel answering said unto him [Zacharias, Elisabeth's husband], "I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings."*

2. God chose the time of Christ's appearance on earth

Galatians 4:4 *But when the fulness of the time was come [when God had prepared the people living on the earth], God sent forth his Son, made of a woman [meaning Mary], made under the law,*

3. Angel Gabriel a special angel

- a. He only appears named in Daniel & Luke
- b. He stands in the presence of God
- c. Only 3 angelic beings named in Bible – Michael, Gabriel, & Lucifer (evil Satan)

4. God gives angels specific work

- a. Angels are ministering spirits who desire to look into salvation (Heb 1:7, 1 Peter 1:12)
- b. Angel did not preach the gospel to Cornelius (Acts 7:1-8)

B. Given in a humble place (the town of Nazareth)

1. Other regions of Israel looked down on Galilee & Nazareth

John 1:46 *And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see.*

2. Peter spoke with a Galilean accent

Matthew 26: 73 *And after a while came unto him they that stood by, and [while they were standing by the fire some that stood there] said to Peter, Surely thou also art one of them [the group of Jesus' disciples]; for thy speech betrayeth thee [because your voice sounds like you're from Galilee].*

3. It was on major crossroads from Tyre & Sidon to Jerusalem
4. It was ½ way mark between those major cities, about 70 miles northeast from Jerusalem

C. Given to holy woman (Mary)

1. Mary was poor & lived a godly life (virgin)

2. Pregnancy without male contribution naturally impossible, but God performed impossible miracle

Matthew 1:18 *Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise* [happened in this sequence]: *When as his mother Mary was espoused* [engaged] *to Joseph, before they came together* [before they were actually married], *she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.*

3. Virgin birth sign for nation of Israel

Isaiah 7:14 *Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.*

4. Mary extraordinary woman who found favor with God

James 4:6 *But he* [God] *giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.*

III. Mission of Our King

A. For appointed person

1. Jesus of Nazareth: Son of Man, Son of God
2. Jesus had no sin nature, unlike other humans

Hebrews 4:15 *For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities* [For our high priest understands what our weaknesses feel like]; *but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.*

3. Appointed name

- a. Jesus given His name before He was born
- b. "Iesous" (Jesus) Greek name for Hebrew Joshua
- c. Name of Jesus means "Jehovah is salvation" or "Jehovah saves"
- d. Jesus came in the likeness of sinful flesh

Romans 8:3 *For what the law could not do* [because the law could not make people righteous], *in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh* [God was able to do through His Son Jesus, made in the likeness of sinful men], *and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:*

- e. Jesus came from the presence of His Father

John 1:18 *No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father* [who is always close to the heart of God the Father], *he hath declared him* [has made Him known].

B. For announced purpose.

1. Angel announced that Jesus would save His people from their sins

Matthew 1:21 *And she [Mary] shall bring forth [give birth to] a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.*

2. Son of God

John 8:58 *Jesus said unto them [Jews in the Jerusalem Temple], "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am..."*

Colossians 2:9 *For in him [Jesus] dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.*

3. Son of Man

Matthew 1:1 *The book of the generation [genealogy] of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.*

4. Promise that God gave to David that his throne would last forever

2 Samuel 7:12-13 *And when thy [David, King of Israel] days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers [and you are buried with your ancestors], I [God] will set up thy seed after thee [set one of your bloodline in your place], which shall proceed out of thy bowels [which will be biologically related to you], and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom forever.*

5. Jesus in His second coming will be great & will rule on David's throne

Revelation 19:16 *And he [Jesus] hath on his vesture [clothing] and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.*

IV. Miracle of Our King

A. A miraculous conception

1. Power of the Holy Spirit came upon Mary to create a boy child
2. Naturally impossible for boy child without human male sperm
3. Contrast of Adam & Jesus

- a. Adam's sin brought death to entire human race

Romans 5:12 *Wherefore, as by one man [Adam] sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:*

b. But Jesus brought the free gift of grace

Romans 5:15 *But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one [Adam] many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by [it is even more true that the gift of God's grace is given through] one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.*

c. Jesus gave the free gift of righteousness & life

Romans 5:17 *For if by one man's [Adam's] offence death reigned by one; much more [it is even more true that] they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.*

B. A manifested obedience

1. Mary consented to do God's word & God's will
2. Mary called herself a bondservant ("handmaid") of God (Greek doulos)
3. Mary's life would not be easy, but God was with her

Psalm 34:18-19 *The LORD is nigh unto [is near to] them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be [and saves people] of a contrite [repentent] spirit. ¹⁹Many are the afflictions [troubles] of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.*

4. Prophet Jeremiah gave comfort to Israel in exile during difficult times

Jeremiah 29:11 *For I [God] know the thoughts that I think toward you [Israel (and all believers)], saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end [to fulfill all the promises I have made to you].*

V. Conclusion

A. God's expected end for Christian

1. Christian has new purpose in life to follow Christ
2. Christian will have new purpose in the future to reign with Christ

B. How do I become a Christian?

1. Call upon the name of Jesus

Romans 10:13 *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*

2. God adopts you into His family

John 1:12 *But as many as received him [Jesus], to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:*

Romans 8:15-16 *For ye have not received the spirit of bondage [slavery] again to [again which results in] fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. ¹⁶The [Holy] Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:*