

SUN MORNING

COURAGE TO BELIEVE

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Text: Luke 1:26-38 - 6th month Elizabeth's pregnant

"And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, 27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. 28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. 29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. 30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. 31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. 32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: 33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. 34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? 35 And 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. 36 And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. 37 For with God nothing shall be impossible. 38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her." (Luke 1:26-38)

INTRODUCTION

- Mary a virgin - no previous marital relation
* she knew the facts of life
- Jesus conception a miracle - no oogenesis or parthenogenesis

1. A CLEAR Revelation (v. 26-28)

A. An unexpected Visit (v. 26a)

A SPECIAL ANGEL - Angel Gabriel

AN APPOINTED TIME - correct time in history

"But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, 5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." (Galatians 4:4-5)

B. An unlikely Place (v. 26b)

small village "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" (John 1:46) - general social thought

Quote: "A place is not judged by its institutions or advantages, but by the righteous people within its borders."

C. An unusual Girl (v. 27-28)

Satan enemy "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." (Genesis 3:15)

MARY WAS A PURE WOMAN - Mary found favor with God

MARY WAS A CHOSEN WOMAN -

- genealogy of Mary - Lk 3:23-38

2. A CLEANSING Redemption (v. 29-33)

*"And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God."
(Luke 1:30)*

A. A miraculous Redeemer (v. 31a) - miraculous A SON (named Jesus) conception

Quote: "Only as the Holy Spirit takes the place of the human father in Jesus' conception so it can be true that the one conceived is both fully God and fully man. Christ must be both God and man to atone for sin, but for this to occur, He must be conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a human virgin. No one else in the history of the world is conceived by the Spirit and born of a virgin mother. Therefore, Jesus alone qualifies to be Savior."—**Bruce Ware**

A SAVIOR (Christ-Messiah)

B. A messianic Name (v. 31b) - Jewish Messiah

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)

C. A magnificent Authority (v. 32-33)

HE "SHALL BE GREAT" - Jesus is Lord

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Philippians 2:9-11)

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)

HE SHALL BE THE "SON OF THE HIGHEST" - Son of God

*"Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, 23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."
(Matthew 1:22-23) prophecy of Is 7:14*

HE SHALL "GIVE UNTO HIM THE THRONE OF HIS FATHER DAVID" - descendent of King David

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this." (Isaiah 9:6-7)

"But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom." (Hebrews 1:8)

"And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever." (Revelation 11:15)

3. A COURAGEOUS Reception (by Mary) (v. 34-38)

"Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised." (Proverbs 31:30)

- Pregnancy outside of marriage punished by stoning to death

"And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost: 42 And she spake out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb." (Luke 1:41-42)

A. Courageous faith (v. 34-35)

SHE BELIEVED DESPITE HUMAN IMPOSSIBILITY

"Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: 9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls." (1 Peter 1:8-9)

Quote: "Everybody lives by faith in something or someone. The difference between the Christian believer and the unsaved person is not that one has faith and the other does not. They both have faith. The difference is in the object of their faith, for faith is only as good as the object. The Christian believer has put his faith in Jesus Christ, and he bases that faith on the Word of God."—**Warren Wiersbe**

SHE BELIEVED A DIVINE GUARANTEE

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost." (Matthew 1:18)

Quote: "The word 'overshadow' gives us the proper understanding because it is used in the Greek Old Testament to describe God's presence in the sanctuary and in the New Testament for his overshadowing presence at the Transfiguration where the cloud of glory overshadowed our Lord and his apostles."—**Kent Hughes**

B. Submissive trust (v. 38)

IN GOD'S REVELATION - trusted God's prophecies

IN GOD'S WILL

"Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done." (Luke 22:42) Jesus trusted Father's will

"Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. 8 Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law; 9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second." (Hebrews 10:7-9) 2nd new covenant

Quote: "The world's most popular prayer is, 'Thy will be changed.' But the world's greatest prayer is, 'Thy will be done.' Mary prayed the latter."—**William Barclay**

IN GOD'S PURPOSE

Quote: "God is ready to assume full responsibility for the life wholly yielded to Him."—**Andrew Murray**

- 2 Pet 3:9 not willing that any should perish (also see 1 Tim 2:4)

CONCLUSION

- God changed 2nd X chromosome of human unfertilized (with 46 chromosomes) into Y chromosome - MIRACLE OF BIRTH

