

Visions and Revelations

Message Four: The One Who Bore the Prince of Life

- A. The three greatest miracles in the universe
 - a) Creation
 - b) Birth of Jesus—God becoming Man, the prototype of the God-man
 - c) Resurrection of Christ—Man becoming God, the incorporation of the God-man
- B. The vision that Mary received
 - a) A heartwarming greeting
 - i. The angel greeted Zechariah with, “Do not be afraid,” but greeted Mary with, “O favored one, may you be joyful (*chairō*—joy which is full of grace, *charis*).”
 - ii. “The Lord be with you”
 - b) The Angel’s declaration (part one)
 - i. You “shall call His name Jesus”
 - ii. “He will be great”—indicating preeminence in all things
 - iii. He will rule—He is the Son of the Most High
 - iv. He will be King—He will be given the throne of David and will reign over the House of Jacob
 - v. “Of His kingdom there will be no end”
 - Mary’s response: “How can this be?”
 - c) The Angel’s declaration (part two)
 - i. “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you” (tabernacle...on)

- ii. The child to be born will be called the Holy One, the Son of God—completely one with God in life and nature.

C. Mary's testimony after visiting Elizabeth

- a) "My soul magnifies the Lord"
- b) "My spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior"
- c) "He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant"
- d) "He who is mighty has done great things for me"
- e) "Holy is his name"

D. Mary's declaration was in accordance with her growth and living environment, which was completely in Judaism

- a) "His mercy is on those who fear Him"—contrasted to those who want to follow the Law.
- b) "He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud"—contrasted to the institution of Judaism.
- c) "He has put down the mighty from their throne"—contrasted to the operation of Judaism.
- d) He has "exalted those who are lowly (humble)"
- e) "He has filled the hungry with good things"
- f) "The rich He has sent away empty"
- g) "He has helped (participation that results in a real benefit) His servant Israel"—the new creation is the true Israel of God.

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. (Gal. 5:15–16)

- h) "In remembrance of His mercy...to Abraham and to his seed forever."

Know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. (Gal. 3:7)

Luke 1:26–38; 46–55, New King James Version

²⁶ Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name *was* Mary. ²⁸ And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored *one*, the Lord *is* with you; blessed *are* you among women!"

²⁹ But when she saw *him*, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. ³⁰ Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. ³³ And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴ Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?"

³⁵ And the angel answered and said to her, "*The Holy Spirit* will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. ³⁷ For with God nothing will be impossible."

³⁸ Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

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⁴⁶ And Mary said:

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷ And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.

⁴⁸ For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant;
For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.
⁴⁹ For He who is mighty has done great things for me,
And holy *is* His name.
⁵⁰ And His mercy *is* on those who fear Him
From generation to generation.
⁵¹ He has shown strength with His arm;
He has scattered *the* proud in the imagination of their hearts.
⁵² He has put down the mighty from *their* thrones,
And exalted *the* lowly.
⁵³ He has filled *the* hungry with good things,
And *the* rich He has sent away empty.
⁵⁴ He has helped His servant Israel,
In remembrance of *His* mercy,
⁵⁵ As He spoke to our fathers,
To Abraham and to his seed forever.”