

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN FELLOW SHIP

The Beginning of Christmas In Us

Luke 1:26-38

After 430 years of silence...

Vs. 26-27, “God *sent* the angel **Gabriel** to a virgin named **Mary**”

God initiates communication with us

- About His Son – **John 6:44**
- And through His Son – **John 5:19 & 8:28**

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Who was aware of God sending Gabriel?

- What was happening in the heavenlies?
- What would transpire as a result?
War
(Simeon’s word – **Luke 2:25-35**)

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Vs. 28-29 – “Gabriel said, ‘Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!’”

“Confused and disturbed, **Mary** tried to think what the angel could mean.”

- People choose the prominent and successful
- God chooses the humble and obscure
(David – **I Samuel 16:1-11**)

Jesus is David’s descendent

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Vs. 30-31, “Don’t be afraid, **Mary**” the angel told her.

Really!? How do you think it would impact you?

“**You will conceive and give birth to a Son**”

OH, well... since you put it that way

“And you will name Him **Jesus**.”

Relax. God already has all of the details in mind.

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Vs. 32-33, “He will be **the Son of the Most High**. The Lord God will give Him **the throne of His ancestor David**. And... **His Kingdom will never end!**”

*God intends **FAR beyond** what we dare consider for ourselves...*

*Through ways we would **not even imagine**.*

- The man D.L. Moody heard

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Vs. 34, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin."

- Moses at the bush – "I already took a shot at that & blew it."
- Elisha & Gehazi – **II Samuel 6:15-17**

Our expectations are too small for God

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Vs. 35, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.

His life in and through us is about what **ONLY He** can do.

- What we can do on our own, we don't need Him for
- If that's all we're after, we don't need faith

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Vs. 36-37, "So the baby to be born will be holy, and He will be called the Son of God. What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age."

- We are never alone in God's powerful work

What God says – **HAPPENS!**

Vs. 38, "Mary responded, 'I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true.' And then the angel left her."

- She **knew and embraced her role** before God.
- In that role **she believed and entrusted herself to God, to do with as He pleased.**
- **So can we**

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Our job is to **believe, surrender, submit & cooperate/obey...**

In absolute **trust and confidence**, without **requirement or condition**

Do not disqualify yourself from what **ONLY God** can do

Let Him choose