

ADVENT: THE ARRIVAL OF KING AND KINGDOM

“The Preparation of the Lamb”

(Luke 1:26-38) - December 4, 2022

“In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from 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. And the virgin's name was Mary. 28 And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” 29 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. 30 And 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 bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to 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 And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?” 35 And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born⁵ will be called holy—the Son of God. 36 And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God.” 38 And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.”

❖ **A Reserved Place for this Preparation** (Vs. 26-28)

“In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from 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. And the virgin's name was Mary. 28 And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!”

- A Pure Place

We are told that the angel came to "a virgin."

"Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned" (Romans 5:12)

"For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life." (Leviticus 17:11)

"As it is written, none is righteous, no not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one." (Romans 3:10-11)

- A Prophesied Place

As I have already mentioned, God promised to send His Son into the world through a woman, Gen. 3:15.

- A Prepared Place

❖ **The Revealed Promise in the Preparation (Vs. 29-33)**

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Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to 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."

- **The Promise of a Special Child (Vs. 31-32)**

"And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David,"

- **The Promise of a Saving Child (Vs. 31)**

"And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus."

- **The Promise of a Sovereign Child (Vs. 32-33)**

"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to 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."

- ❖ **The Released Power in this Preparation (Vs. 34-38)**

"And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" 35 And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. 36 And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was

called barren. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God." 38 And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her."

- The Power To Conquer Our Doubts (Vs. 34-38)

The angel speaks the words that conquer Mary's doubts and gives her:

- The Power To Carry Out His Desires (Vs. 35-38)

The angel addresses *Mary's problem* by ...

Giving Her a *Promise*, v. 35

Offering Her Some *Proof*, v. 36

By declaring God's *Power*, v. 37