

GOD WITH US #2
“Mary – The Chosen One”
Luke 1:26-38

The nation of Israel has been waiting for the Messiah to appear for a long time. The Scriptures inform us that he would be a child that would be born in Bethlehem. Who would be the one who would bring him into the world? Of all the women in Israel God would choose one woman to bear the Savior. Who would she be? What special qualities would she possess? Would she be someone of royal pedigree? A celebrity? A dignitary? The daughter of the high priest? Today’s teaching will answer these questions and more.

#1. THE CHOSEN ONE – HER ANGELIC VISITATION, v. 26

- A. Gabriel stands in the presence of God, v. 19
- B. Gabriel is God’s messenger
- C. Gabriel was sent in the sixth month
- D. Gabriel is sent at the time ordained of God

#2. THE CHOSEN ONE – HER PROFILE, vv. 26-27

- A. Mary means “exalted”, v. 26
- B. Mary is from Nazareth in Galilee, v. 26
- C. Nazareth is near the region of the Gentiles, (Isa 9:1), v. 26
- D. Nazareth is economically depressed, v. 26
- E. Nazareth had a population of a few hundred people, v. 26
- F. Mary was betrothed to Joseph v. 27
- G. Mary was a virgin, v. 27
- H. Mary was a teenager, v. 27
- I. Mary was related to Elizabeth, v. 36

#3. THE CHOSEN ONE – HER SELECTION, vv. 28-30

- A. Greetings, you are highly favored, v. 28
- B. The Lord is with you, v. 28
- C. Don’t be afraid, v. 30
- D. You have found favor (*charis*) with God, v. 30
- E. Mary was apprehensive, v. 29

#4. THE CHOSEN ONE – HER MISSION, vv. 31-33

- A. Mary will have a son named Jesus (Greek form of *Jeshua* [God saves]), v. 31
- B. He will be great, v. 32
- C. He will be called Son of the Most High, v. 32
- D. He will have the throne of his father David , v. 32
- E. He will reign over Jacob forever, v. 33
- F. His kingdom will never end, v. 33, (Dan 2:44, 7:14, 2 Sam 7:16, Ps. 89:4, 27-28, Isa 11:1-4)

#5. THE CHOSEN ONE – HER QUESTION, vv. 34-37

- A. I’m a virgin how can this be?, v. 34
- B. The Holy Spirit will come upon you, v. 35
- C. The power of the Most High will overshadow you, v. 35, (Isa 7:14)
- D. The Holy One to be born is the Son of God, v. 35
- E. Elizabeth is pregnant, v. 36
- F. Nothing is impossible with God, v. 37

#6. THE CHOSEN ONE – HER RESPONSE, v. 38

- A. I am the Lord’s servant (*slave*)
- B. May it be to me as you have said
- C. Mary submitted to God’s will for her
- D. Mary understood the implications of her mission

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." ²⁹Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. ³¹You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." ³⁴"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. ³⁷For nothing is impossible with God." ³⁸"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

Daniel 2:44: "In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever.

2 Samuel 7:16: Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.' "

Psalms 89:3-4: You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant, ⁴I will establish your line forever and make your throne firm through all generations.'" Selah

Isaiah 11:1-4: A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. ²The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD--³and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; ⁴but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

Isaiah 7:14: Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- #1. Of all the people in Israel, why do you think God chose Mary to be the mother of Jesus?
- #2. Discuss the difference between being betrothed in the First Century and engaged in today's world.
- #3. How would you describe Mary's response to Gabriel's appearance?
- #4. How would you compare Mary's response to Zechariah's response to Gabriel's appearance and announcement?
- #5. Discuss the features of the Messiah (vv. 31-33) and tie this into the other Scriptures on the outline.
- #6. Do you think Mary felt pressure being called upon by God to do such an important task in world redemption?

#7. Mary asked the question: “How can this be since I am a virgin?”
How can we explain the miraculous conception of Jesus?

#8. How was it that Jesus was born sinless given the fact that Mary was a sinner? Does this mean that Mary was sinless?

#9. In v. 38 Mary submits to God’s mission for her life. In what way(s) do you think Mary understood the controversy that would surround Her? What would Joseph think? What would her parents think? What would her in-laws think? What about her neighbors?

#10. What is your takeaway from this teaching?

Today’s Worship Songs

Your Grace Is Enough

Verse 1

Great is Your faithfulness O God
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

Pre-Chorus

(So) remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God

Chorus 1

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Verse 2

Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

Chorus 2

Yeah Your grace is enough
Heaven reaches out to us
Your grace is enough for me
God I sing Your grace is enough
I'm covered in Your love
Your grace is enough for me for me

CCLI Song # 4477026

Here For You

Verse 1

Let our praise be Your welcome
Let our songs be a sign
We are here for You
We are here for You
Let Your breath come from heaven
Fill our hearts with Your life
We are here for You
We are here for You

Chorus

To You our hearts are open
Nothing here is hidden
You are our one desire
You alone are holy

Only You are worthy
God let Your fire fall down

Verse 2

Let our shout be Your anthem
Your renown fill the sky
We are here for You
We are here for You
Let Your Word move in power
Let what's dead come to life
We are here for You
We are here for You

Bridge

We welcome You with praise
We welcome You with praise
Almighty God of love
Be welcome in this place
(REPEAT)
Let ev'ry heart adore
Let ev'ry soul awake
Almighty God of love
Be welcome in this place
We welcome You with praise
We welcome You with praise
Almighty God of love
Be welcome in this place

Ending

Be welcome in Your house Lord
Be welcome in Your house

CCLI Song # 5925649

Holy Spirit

Verse 1

There's nothing worth more that will ever come close
No thing can compare You're our living hope
Your Presence

Verse 2

I've tasted and seen of the sweetest of loves
Where my heart becomes free and my shame is undone
In Your Presence Lord

Chorus

Holy Spirit You are welcome here
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere
Your glory God is what our hearts long for
To be overcome by Your Presence Lord

Interlude

Your Presence Lord

Interlude

Your Presence Lord
Your Presence
Oh God how we love Your Presence Lord

Bridge

Let us become more aware of Your Presence
Let us experience the glory of Your goodness (Lord)

CCLI Song # 6087919

Good Good Father

Verse 1

I've heard a thousand stories
Of what they think You're like
But I've heard the tender whisper
Of love in the dead of night
You tell me that You're pleased
And that I'm never alone

Chorus

You're a Good Good Father
It's who You are
It's who You are
It's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am
It's who I am
It's who I am

Verse 2

I've seen many searching for answers
Far and wide
But I know we're all searching for answers
Only You provide
Because You know just what we need
Before we say a word

Bridge

You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us

Verse 3

Love so undeniable I can hardly speak
Peace so unexplainable I can hardly think
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
Into love love love

CCLI Song # 7036612

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE ARE MAKING GREAT PROGRESS

In improving the quality of the zoom service. Thank you for your patience and understanding in this matter. We have been working very hard to set forth the best quality experience possible for those in zoom land.

A TEMPORARY SETBACK

We will keep you posted on when the doors of the church are open for in person gatherings.

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY at 6:30: a discussion of the previous sermon.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER & devotional meeting at 6:30.
(access both by clicking the zoom link)

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 7:00pm on zoom

STEWARDSHIP

Thank you for financially supporting the ministry of Hillcrest Church. You can give online at the church website or mail your check to the church. This is the time to think about making a year-end contribution, which is fully tax deductible, to the following:

- Give to the general fund (our operating expenses)
- Give to the elder's fund (to assist those in financial need)
- Give to the Great Commission fund (for the missionaries of the CMA)

ANNUAL MEETING

Because of the extraordinary times we are living in due to the pandemic the District Superintendent, Wayne Spriggs, has given churches permission to suspend their bylaws regarding their annual meeting. Therefore, we will not be having our annual meeting for 2021. The present board members will continue to serve for another year and a financial report will be made available to the congregation for next year.