

I AM THE LORD'S SERVANT ~ Luke 1:39-56

Scripture Reading - Luke 1.26-33

Mary MEETS Gabriel ~ Luke 1:26-33

[26] In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, [27] to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. [28] Gabriel appeared to her and said, Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is WITH you. [29] Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. [30] "Don't be AFRAID, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have FOUND FAVOR with God!"

Gabriel's PROMISED that Jesus would...

- be FULLY Human vs. 31
- be FULLY God - His MISSION to SAVE vs. 31
- be GREAT vs. 32
- be RECOGNIZED as the SON of God vs. 31, 35
- receive the THRONE of David vs. 32
- receive an EVERLASTING kingdom vs. 33

IMPLICATION

Hebrews 13:5 (NIV) Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

Mary VISITS Elizabeth ~ Luke 1:38-45

[38] "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her. [39] At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, [40] where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. [41] When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby LEAPED in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. [42] In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! [43] But why am I so favored, that the MOTHER of my Lord should come to me? [44] As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. [45] Blessed is she who has BELIEVED that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished.

Both Elizabeth and Mary...

- went through a God Given MIRACULOUS Birth
- were Truly HUMBLE
- had SONS in answer to prophecy
- had Sons who would be KILLED
- showed amazing FAITH

APPLICATION

Mary's SONG of PRAISE ~ Luke 1:39-45

[46] And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord [47] and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, [48] for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, [49] for the Mighty One has done great things for me - holy is his name. [50] His MERCY extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. [51] He has performed MIGHTY deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. [52] He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. [53] He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. [54] He has HELPED his servant Israel, REMEMBERING to be merciful [55] to Abraham and his descendants forever, even as he said to our fathers." [56] Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

TAKE AWAY??

Malachi 3:1 (NLT) Look! I am sending my messenger, and he will prepare the WAY before ME...

Malachi 4:6 (NLT) His preaching will TURN the hearts of fathers to their children, and the hearts of children to their fathers. Otherwise I will come and strike the land with a curse."

The only people whose soul can truly MAGNIFY the Lord are people who acknowledge their lowly estate and are OVERWHELMED by the *condescension* of the MAGNIFICENT God. J Piper

He, who had always been God BY NATURE, did NOT CLING to His prerogatives as God's equal, but stripped Himself of all PRIVILEGE by consenting to be a slave by nature and being born as mortal man. And, having become man, He HUMBLed Himself by living a life of utter OBEDIENCE... (JBP)

We can FULLY Magnify and Exalt God ONLY when we are truly HUMBLE

When we are OVERWHELMED by HIS willing OBEDIENCE to God's Plan

[43] But **why am I so favored**, that the **MOTHER of my Lord should come to me?**

[48] for he has been mindful of the **humble state of his servant**.

When we EXALT God we...

- ACCEPT that He is Sovereign
- SUBMIT to His Plan for us
- COME Regularly to the throne of GRACE for HELP
- WORSHIP Jesus Fully and Freely