

Matthew 2:6 (NLT)

And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah, are not least among the ruling cities of Judah, for a ruler will come from you who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.”

Luke 2:1, 3 (NLT)

At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus,
decreed that a census should be taken
throughout the Roman Empire...

³ All returned to their own ancestral towns to
register for this census.

Luke 2:4-5 (NLT)

And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. ⁵ He took with him Mary, his fiancée, who was now obviously pregnant.

**FAITH is CHOOSING
to Believe**

Luke 1:26-38

Mary's Son would...

BKC

- be **GREAT**
- be called the **SON** of the Most High
- be given His father David's **THRONE**
- reign over Israel **FOREVER**
- have a Kingdom that **NEVER** Ends

³⁸ **I am the Lord's servant**, Mary answered.

May it be to me as you have said.

Then the angel left her.

³⁸ **I belong to the Lord, body and soul -**

let it happen as you have... (JBP)

MARY was...

- the only person with Jesus at His **BIRTH** and **DEATH**
- a young woman who made herself **AVAILABLE** to God
- knew and **APPLIED** O.T. Scriptures
- an ordinary young woman who became **EXTRAORDINARY**

...nothing is impossible with God.

I am the Lord's **SERVANT** -
May it **be to me** as you have said.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NIV)

Do you not know that your body is a temple
of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you
have received from God?

You are NOT YOUR OWN;

you were **BOUGHT** at a **PRICE**.

Therefore **HONOR** God with your body.

1 Corinthians 10:31(JBP)
...whatever you do, eating or drinking
or anything else,
EVERYTHING should be done to
BRING GLORY to God.

The name **Jesus** specifies
WHAT He **DOES** - God **SAVES**,
while the Messianic title **Immanuel**
specifies **WHO** He **IS** - God **WITH US**.

ESVN

Joseph was a man of OBEDIENCE...

- took Mary as his wife **RIGHT AWAY**
- **NAMED** the baby Jesus
- **OBEYED** the Old Testament Law

→ **FAITH** and **OBEDIENCE**
must go hand in hand

Habakkuk 3:17-19 (NIV)

Though the fig tree does not bud and there
are no grapes on the vines, though the
olive crop fails and the fields produce no
food, though there are no sheep in the pen
and no cattle in the stalls...

Habakkuk 3:17-19 (NIV)

...yet **I WILL REJOICE** in the LORD,

I will be **JOYFUL** in God my Savior.

¹⁹ **The Sovereign LORD** is my strength...

I WILL Continue to...

- **REJOICE** in the Lord vs. 18
- Remember God is **SOVEREIGN**
- **TRUST** the Lord for Strength

²⁵...He was waiting for the **CONSOLATION**
of Israel...

³⁸ she gave thanks to God and spoke about
the child to all who were looking forward
to the **REDEMPTION** of Jerusalem.

2 Timothy 4:7-8 (NIV)

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day - and not only to me, but also to **ALL who have LONGED** for his **appearing**.

Those Who **LONG** for His Coming...

- are Focused on what God **WANTS**
- eagerly **PURSUE** a deeper walk with Jesus
- keep **SHORT** Accounts
- Spend Time others who long for His
COMING
- Share the gospel so that Others can
KNOW Jesus

Jesus did not come to make bad people good - God sent Jesus so that those who were **DEAD** could be made **ALIVE**.

R. Zacharias