

## Lesson #7: Birth Announcement of Jesus

Lk. 1:26-56

Six months after Elizabeth conceives with baby, Gabriel visits Mary in Nazareth. She receives a message that would shock her more than it did Elizabeth, when she was told, at her old age, that she would give birth to a prophet.

### 1:26-33 – Favor with God

#### V. 26 - Gabriel

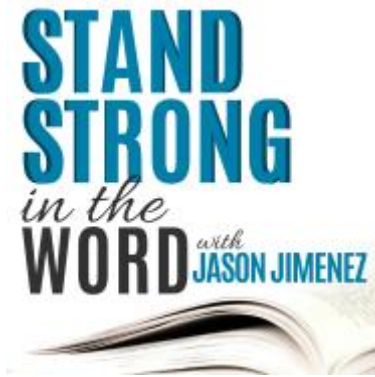
- We were introduced to Gabriel when he appeared to Zechariah in the temple. Before that Gabriel spoke to the prophet Daniel (8:15-26; 9:21-27), and now Gabriel appears to Mary.
  - Gabriel announces the humanity and deity of Jesus in Luke 1:30-33
- Nazareth - The people in Judah disdained the Jews in Galilee because of their interaction and close proximity to Gentiles. Yet, here we see God sending Gabriel to announce to a lowly Galilean that she will be the mother of the Most High God (1:32)

#### V. 27 - Mary

- A Jewess of the tribe of Judah, a descendant of David. We know she was young, betrothed to Joseph (a carpenter, Matt. 13), and a virgin (Lk. 1:27; Isa. 7:14). We also know that the two of them were not wealthy, according to their offerings at the temple in Lk. 2:24.

#### V. 31 - Jesus Christ -

- **Jesus—GK.** *Jeshua*/"Joshua" – "*Jehovah-Savior*"
- **Christ—GK.** *Messiah*; Hebrew, *Mashiach*; "Anointed One"
  - **Isaiah 9:6** - The Hebrew word translated "Wonderful" means "extraordinary." It is sometimes translated "miracle" or "miraculous." It is usually used in reference to God or His work. The Hebrew word translated "Counselor" is related to the word for "design." It denotes qualities of wisdom essential for a just ruler. The phrase translated "Mighty God" could also be translated "Divine Warrior." This title stresses Jesus' power to carry out all He intends to do. The phrase translated "Everlasting Father" has no precedent in the Old Testament. It seems to refer to compassion for those who are helpless. It might also refer to His



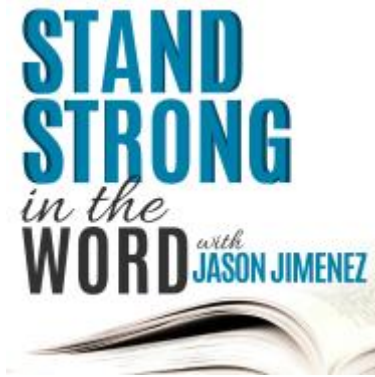
guidance and correction of His people. The phrase translated “Prince of Peace” indicates the circumstances that Christ’s ministry will bring about: lasting peace.”

### 1:34-45 – Nothing Is Impossible With God

- **Virgin Birth** – The virgin birth is a miracle. The word “virgin” is the Greek word *Parthenos* – no sexual relations. Many critics come out against the bible and Jesus because they don’t believe in miracles. Therefore, the virgin birth is something of pagan myth to them.
  - Over 700 years prior to Christ’s arrival, Isaiah prophesied these words, “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and we will call Him Immanuel (7:14).” Therefore, when Jesus came on scene, He was the long awaited Messiah who would be the One to fulfill all messianic prophecies that existed prior to His coming.
  - The Old Testament has approximately 200 predictive prophecies by many of its prophets who foretold of the coming Messiah. Specifically, Psalm 2:7 says, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father.”
  - For example, Christ not only fulfilled Isaiah’s prophecy of the virgin birth, but He also singlehandedly fulfilled every significant predictive prophecy of the anticipated Messiah foretold by the prophets. For instance, Christ was born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2), He came from the tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:10) and is a direct descendant of King David (2 Samuel 7:16), and happened to be born exactly 483 years after the destruction of the temple in 444 B.C. as was prophesied by the prophet Daniel (Daniel 9:24).

### V. 35 – Son of God

- “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.” (vs. 35)
- According to this Messianic passage, God declares Christ to be the begotten Son of God from all eternity.



### 1:46-56 – Mary’s Praise to God

- **“Magnificat”** (Latin) – “Glories” –
  - A Jewish psalm of praise to God. It echoes that of Hannah’s prayer in 1 Sam. 2:1-10 when she received a vision that she would give birth to Samuel (the priest and prophet).
  - In verses 51-54, Mary is prophetically laying out what the Messiah will do

I know these events with the pronouncement of John and Jesus were extraordinary. To announce the coming of a prophet, when, for 400 years there was no prophet, and no announcements. But then, not only do you hear of the birth announcement of the greatest prophet, but within a few short months the announcement of the long awaited Messiah.

### APPLICATION

I want us to take one last look at the worshipful demeanor and expression of the prayers and worship of Zechariah and Mary.

- Do your prayers have the kind of faith of Zechariah?
- Do you have this kind of intimacy like Mary does with God?