

Chosen

Luke 1: 26 – 38

17 December 2017 A.M.

Christmas 2017

Luke 1: 26 - 31

²⁶ Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And coming in, he said to her, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord *is* with you." ²⁹ But she was very perplexed at *this* statement, and kept pondering what kind of salutation this was. ³⁰ 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 name Him Jesus.

Luke 1: 32 - 38

³² “He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; ³³ and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.” ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵ The angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God. ³⁶ “And behold, even your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age; and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month. ³⁷ “For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸ And Mary said, “Behold, the bondservant of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

God's Choice Reflects Preparation

Vv. 26 - 30

- Mary has a terrifying experience.
 - Sudden angelic appearances.
 - Mary's response.
- Evidence of her preparation.
 - She was pure.
 - She was betrothed.
 - Mary and Joseph were Godly examples for God's choice for this incredible event.

God's Choice Reflects Impossibilities.

Vv. 31 - 37

- Like the proclamation to Zacharias, Mary was to conceive One who would be great.
 - Jesus is identified as Great, and the Son of the Most High.
 - Jesus is identified as receiver of the throne of David.
- Mary is still pondering, seeking understanding of this announcement.
- Gabriel's answer leads Mary to faith in a God of impossibilities.

Conclusion V. 38.

- Mary willingly sold herself completely to God, claiming herself as a bond slave.
- Surrender to God is an absolute essential both for salvation and service.
- God has a marvelous plan for each life, and chooses us to awesome opportunities for service.
- Will you give God the gift of yourself as His bond slave into service this Christmas?