

— Luke 1.18-38 —

Luke's Advent of Christ 2

Zacharias Receives a Sign, Elizabeth Conceives, Gabriel Visits Mary

Luke 1.18 And Zacharias said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years."

* **How does** Zacharias react to God's promise via Gabriel?

19 **"I am Gabriel**, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings. 20 But behold, you will be mute and not able to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time."

* **What is** Gabriel's response to Zacharias?

21 **And the** people waited for Zacharias, and marveled that he lingered so long in the temple. 22 But when he came out, he could not speak to them; and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple, for he beckoned to them and remained speechless.

* **Meanwhile**, what is going on with the people outside?

23 **So it was**, as soon as the days of his service were completed, that he departed to his own house. 24 Now after those days his wife Elizabeth conceived; and she hid herself five months, saying, 25 "Thus the Lord has dealt with me, in the days when He looked on me, to take away my reproach among people."

* **What happens** when Zacharias returns home to Elizabeth?

* **What is** Elizabeth's response?

26 **Now in the** sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

* **What is** the timing and location of Gabriel's visit to Mary?

* **What is** the human source of Luke's historical details regarding Gabriel's visit to Mary?

28 **And having** come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!" 29 But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. 30 Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God."

* **What is** Gabriel's greeting to Mary (vs 28) called, and how is it rendered by the Church of Rome?

* **How does** that rendering play into the Church of Rome's doctrine of Mary?

* **What explains** the different renderings of vs 28?

* **What does** the original Greek say, and how is that confirmed in vs 30?

31 “And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. 32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; 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 of His kingdom there will be no end.”

* **What promise** is Gabriel referring to in vs 32-33? How do we know this was pointing to someone other than Solomon?

2Sam 7.12 “When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men.”

* **How do** we know that Christ’s kingship (reign) and high priesthood (forgiveness of sins) go together?

Psalm 110.1 The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.” ... 4 The LORD has sworn And will not relent, “You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek.”

Acts 2.34 “The Lord said to my Lord, ‘Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.’” (quoting Psalm 110.1)

Acts 2.36 “Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”

Heb 7.15 ... in the likeness of Melchizedek, there arises another priest 16 who has come, not according to the law of a fleshly commandment, but according to the power of an endless life. 17 For He testifies: “You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek.” (quoting Psalm 110.4)

34 Then Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I do not know a man?” 35 And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. 36 Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. 37 For with God nothing will be impossible.” 38 Then Mary said, “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

* **How and why** does Gabriel treat Mary’s question (34) differently than Zacharias’ (18)?

* **Who else** held the title, “Son of God,” and what does it signify?

Luke 3.38 ... Adam, the son of God.

* **Application:** The kind of people God uses. What two big things do Zacharias, Elizabeth, and Mary—and her betrothed Joseph—have in common?

(1)

(2)

Gal 3.16 Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, “And to your Seed,” who is Christ.

Gal 3.8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, “In you all the nations shall be blessed.” (quoting Gen 12.3)

Gal 3.29 And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Heb 11.8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

Mat 1.20 ... behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.” ... 24 Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife ...