



Relive CHRISTMAS

Reliving Christmas through the life of Mary
Luke 1:26-56

- Unexpected Participant

Who does God pull into His story?

- Redemptive Problem

Abraham, Joseph, Naomi, etc.

- Redemptive Provision

How does God reveal himself through this problem?

Luke 1:26-56

- Who is the unexpected participant?
- What are the redemptive problems?
- How is God at work in these problems?

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."



And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

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. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.



In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”



And Mary said:

“My soul glorifies the Lord
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has been mindful
of the humble state of his servant.
From now on all generations will call me blessed,
for the Mighty One has done great things for me—
holy is his name.

His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.
He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.
He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.
He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful
to Abraham and his descendants forever,
just as he promised our ancestors.”

Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.



Unexpected Participant

- Engaged to be married (v. 27)
- Virgin (v. 27)
- ~ 15 years
- Humble state (v. 48)



Redemptive Problem

Mary's Redemptive Problem

- Virgin Birth
- Shame/stigma of unwed pregnancy

Israel's Redemptive Problem

- Roman Occupation
- Waiting for the Messiah

Mankind's Redemptive Problem

- Sin



Redemptive Provision

Mary's Redemptive Provision

- Virgin Birth
- Shame/stigma of unwed pregnancy

Israel's Redemptive Provision

- Roman Occupation
- Waiting for the Messiah

Mankind's Redemptive Provision

- Sin

JESUS



The Participants Role

- Submitted (v. 38)
- Believes the word of God (v. 45)



‘Believe’

ἀγαπάω
“Love”

πιστεύω
“Believe”

ἀγάπη
“Love”

πίστις
“Faith”



The Participants Role

- Submitted (v. 38)
- Believes the word of God (v. 45)
Faiths the word of God
- Fears God, walks in humility (v. 48, 50, 52)



Application

Think of problems in your life. Will you, like Mary, believe God in the midst of those problems?

Will Jesus be the redeeming hope in your brokenness?

