

## Episode #450 Christmas 2018 3: Mary and the Angel

I. The birth of Christ was a miraculous event that prepared the way for all that He would accomplish in His death, burial, and resurrection. At this time of year we remember that birth and the glorious salvation that God gave us as a result.

II. Luke 1:26. Gabriel's mission

- A. This is the angel Gabriel, whose name means "Man of God." He is named only here and in Daniel 8:16, 9:21.
- B. He is one of two angels named (along with Michael the archangel).
- C. In the sixth month after the visit to Zechariah, so probably December.

III. Luke 1:27. Mary

- A. The Greek *parthenos* means "virgin." See verse 34.
- B. "Betrothed" was legally binding. It took a divorce to break it. Girls in their society were married in their early teens, so she was probably 15 years old at most!
- C. Notice that the kingly family was of no consequence at this time; not even part of the rich, ruling class! This shows the ungodly nature of this "rich" caste.
- D. Her name in Greek is Miriam, the same as Moses' sister, not Mary (Maria).

IV. Luke 1:28-29. The angel's greeting

- A. Verse 28. He calls her both "highly favored" and "blessed." "Highly favored" means "engraced one," *charitoo*. These same words are found in Ephesians 1:6, 1:3, and are used of us! Mary was not sinless, and was of no consequence in Israel. She was of the house of David, but not of the kingly line. Most likely, as we compare the two genealogies, she was fatherless (her father had died). Her choice was by God's grace.
- B. Verse 29. She is a humble girl, and doesn't know what to make of this. Interesting that she is more troubled than afraid, a very different reaction than when most men first see an angel! She was also a thinker. We can also see this in Luke 2:19.

V. Luke 1:30-33. The angel's message.

- A. Verse 30. The angel forestalls any fear. "Favor" = *charis*, grace. God's grace was the reason for His choice of Mary! It was not because she was perfect or sinless.
- B. Verse 31. His name is "Jesus," "Joshua," "Jehoshua," or "Jehovah-Savior."
- C. Verse 32. The focus of the angel is not His death, but His kingship!

VI. The mother of our Lord Jesus Christ was a most remarkable young lady. She was not afraid at meeting an angel, as many men older and wiser than she were afraid. She found great grace with God, and was greatly graced to bring forth the Lord Jesus Christ, the One Who is Jehovah the Savior. God's choice of her is like His choice of us. She was blessed because of His grace. We are blessed for the same reason, praise God!