

THE CHILDLESS CHURCH #3 THE CHOSEN CHURCH

We have looked at the Childless church as it is represented in Hannah. She was desperate for a child and after the taunting of Peninnah she has Samuel- a voice to the nation.

We examined The Unexpected church of Zachariah and Elizabeth. They were old and unexpected, but they experienced and unexpected visitation (angel) with and unexpected word from the Lord (son is coming who will be a Nazarite) and was given and unexpected sign (mute). They produce one who would be a “voice crying in the wilderness” announcing the coming of the Christ.

Today we examine Mary.

Luke 1 ²⁶ In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.”

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end.”

³⁴ “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”

³⁵ The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Even

Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month.³⁷ For nothing is impossible with God.”³⁸ “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May it be to me as you have said.” Then the angel left her. NIV

I. THE SELECTION OF THE ONE CHOSEN- MARY

We are like Mary. We did not choose God; He chose us!

- A. Mary is from Nazareth-
A place of humility.
A place of low expectation- “can anything good come out of Nazareth?”
- B. Mary is a virgin
Mary is a women of purity. She has not had sex with a man.
- C. Mary is pledged to a man-
We are the bride of Christ. We will not commit to any other than Jesus Christ.
- D. She is avored with God’s presence-

v28 “....you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.”

What a testimony! I would to God that can be said about our church. Can it be said about us individually.

1Chronicles 22:18 David reminds Israel that the Lord is with them and made peace on every side, now build the temple with Solomon.

14 times in the N.T. the writers of scripture proclaim the blessing on the church by saying, “The Lord or The grace of the Lord be with you all.”

We must be convinced that the Lord is with us!
If we are convinced anything can happen!

II. THE PROCLAMATION TO THE CHOSEN

A. You will become pregnant.

V31 “you will be with child....” We will carry life that has been placed inside of us.

B. You will give birth to Jesus- deliverance.

V31... you are to give him the name Jesus.

C. You will see his eternal kingdom- **He will rule.**

³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end.”

III. THE EXPLANATION TO THE CHOSEN

v. 34 “How will this be....

A. The Holy Spirit will come – **The Spirit of life.**

Psalm 104 ³⁰ When you send your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth. NIV

In Genesis the Holy Spirit hovers over the face of the deep.

B. You will be enveloped by power

³⁵ The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.

The word **power** in Greek is *dunamis*. It means *miraculous power, force, and might*.

The word **overshadow** is *episkiazo* meaning *enveloped in a haze of brilliancy*.

If anything happens that we are asking God for it will not be because we have the power but because He does!

He is saying that Mary will sense a surrounding or environment of the Holy Spirit. Isn't that what happened in the upper room on Pentecost?

Acts 2 ² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and **filled the whole house where they were sitting**. NIV

What was the result? Acts 2 ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. NIV

C. The God who is with you is the God of the impossible.

What will our response be to the messenger?

Let it be as Mary.

³⁸ “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May it be to me as you have said.”....

Let’s make this our prayer.

The chosen church produces the DELIVERER- JESUS