

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Luke 1:5-38

- I. The _____ leading up to Christ's Birth
- A. The time period was a spiritually _____ one
1. 400 years of seeming _____ between the Old and New Testament
 2. The King was _____—Herod the Great
 - a. He was a wicked king
 1. He had at least _____ wives
 2. He had one of his wives _____
 - b. He was determined to _____ the earth of the "New born King of the Jews"
 1. The Wise Men come looking for the King Mt. 2:1-12
 - a. Herod instructs them to go find the King and report back to him so he could " _____ " him also
 - b. God instructed them not to report back to Herod
 2. Herod kills all the young male children Mt 2:13-16
- B. The _____ between Northern and Southern Jews was evident
1. The Jews of Southern Israel had a great _____ for the Jews of Northern Israel
 2. John 1:45-46 Nathaniel's expression of _____ to his brother Phillip's announcement
- C. The _____ lack of spiritual discernment Vs 5-25
1. The announcement by Gabriel to Zacharias
 2. Zacharias' _____
 - a. Zacharias was a _____ follower of God Vs 5-7
 - b. Zacharias was a man filled with _____ Vs 8-17
 - c. Zacharias' unbelief _____ Vs 18-22
 - d. Zacharias experienced the mercy and grace of God Vs 23-25
- II. The Announcement of Christ's Birth Vs 26-38
- A. Six months of Elizabeth's pregnancy have elapsed
- B. Even though the people of Judah disdained the Jews in Galilee, God chose a young lady from Nazareth, of _____ to be the mother of His Only Begotten Son.
1. Mary was a descendant of David, and from the Tribe of Judah
 2. Mary was _____ to Joseph, the carpenter
 - a. It appears that both Mary and Joseph were _____ people
 - b. Engagement in that day was looked at as though they were already _____, and could only be broken by divorce.
 - c. Mary was a cousin to Elizabeth
 - d. Mary was probably in her early _____ years, and she was a virgin
- C. Gabriel made the announcement of Jesus Vs 26-33
1. He announced to _____ the birth of John, the Baptist
 2. He announced to _____ the birth of Jesus, the Son of God
 3. This action has great importance, since in Scripture the _____ usually is the one given important news by God.
 4. Gabriel's greeting to Mary: "Rejoice, highly _____ one, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among _____ women!" Vs 28
 5. Mary is _____ and disturbed at the greeting. Vs 29
 6. The actual announcement Vs 30-33

- a. Do not _____ what is happening Vs 30a
 - b. God has _____ to show you favor Vs 30b
 - c. You will have a male child and you will name Him Jesus Vs 31
 - d. This Son will be the _____ Son of God Vs 32
 - e. This Son will be ruler over Israel _____ Vs 33
- D. Mary tries to understand how this could ever take place. Vs 34
1. This response seems to be a moot point, yet God saw fit to record it.
 2. Could it be God wants us to understand that He chooses _____ He will to carry out His purposes?
 3. Could it be God wants us to understand that His choices are not determined by our " _____ "?
 4. Could it be God wants us to understand He _____ accomplish any task He wishes through whomever He wishes?
 5. Could it be God wants us to know we do not have to _____ what He is doing in our life, we just need to _____?
- E. Gabriel helps Mary understand and realize God is _____ at work. Vs 35-37
1. The fulfillment of the announcement will be a supernatural act of God _____ Vs 35
 2. She is not the only one in whom God is performing a miracle Vs 36-37
- G. Mary's _____ Vs 38
1. Not having time to _____ the situation at hand,
 2. Not totally understanding the full _____ of what is taking place,
 3. Not understanding fully how God will make this happen,
 4. Mary _____ submits to God's sovereign rule over her without reservation.

Conclusion: As Christians by faith we _____ the events of the Christmas story without reservation. How long has it been since we placed _____ in the actual events and tried to think about the responses we would have given? The birth of Christ is not some pretty " _____ " with a happy ending. It is an account of the Son of God coming into this sin cursed world through unusual, yet _____ conditions. Let's rejoice that Jesus was _____ to come, and that He used _____ people like ourselves to accomplish this miraculous event. Then may we be as submissive to the challenges of life as Mary was.