The Birth Of Jesus Foretold

Isa 7:14; 9:6-7; Mic 5:2; Luke 1:26-45

Faith Portal Church

ADULT

Unit 6 Lesson 2

Supplemental Texts

Matt 1:18-25

Focus Verse

"And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her." – Luke 1:38

Introduction

God gave a signal that Jesus would be born after the fall of man in the garden of Eden (Gen 3:15). In Gen 12:3, God promised Abraham that He will bless all the people of the earth through him. God revealed that a virgin would give birth to God's Son in Bethlehem, and He will be an everlasting Ruler (Isa 7:14; 9:6; Mic 5:2). Hosea 11:1 looks backward to when God brought Israel out of Egypt and forward to when baby Jesus was brought back from Egypt after fleeing Herod.

Deeper Look

Thou Shall Conceive In Thy Womb - Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, angel Gabriel appeared unto Mary in Nazareth. Mary was a virgin betrothed to Joseph, a descendant of David. Mary betrothed to Joseph meant that they were obliged to be faithful to each other, and a divorce would be required to annul the betrothal. The greeting from the angel, though confused her, showed Mary's humility. Mary was chosen to be the mother of Jesus, the Son of God, the Savior of the world (Isa 7:14; Matt 1:21). He will be the Messiah who will rightfully occupy the throne of His father David (Gen 49:10; 2 Sam 7:16; Isa 9:6-7). Jesus will rule not only over Israel, but also over the gentile nations forever; He will rule over all the elect of God (Isa 9:7; Dan 7:14). Mary was told she would conceive when the Holy Ghost would come over her. Being told that the child would be called the Son of God meant in their culture that Jesus would be equal with God (John 5:18; Phil 2:6). Learning that Elisabeth, an old woman, had conceived was an amazing news that attested to the fact that God would do what He had promised Mary.

Blessed Is The Fruit Of Thy Womb - Luke 1:39-45

Mary traveled about 80-100 miles to visit Elisabeth, her relative. Mary probably went to her because Elisabeth could understand her experience with the angel and miraculous conception. The baby John jumped for joy in Elisabeth's womb when she heard Mary's salutation, and she was filled with the Holy Ghost and believed that the baby in Mary's womb was the Lord (v. 43).

Questions

1.	How would you describe a prophecy? What do Isa 7:14; 9:6-7; Mic 5:2 tell us about the Person of Jesus? Is there any agreement between the prophecies of prophets Isaiah and Micah? If yes, mention the agreements.
2.	How would you describe the word espouse as it was understood by the Jews? In our

day, what word is used to describe espouse, and how is it different from espouse?

- 3. Angel Gabriel told Mary that she was highly favored, and that God was with her. Why did God choose Mary to be the mother of Jesus? What is the ingredient to be favored by God? How do you know you are favored?
- 4. Read the prophecies in Isa 7:14; 9:6-7; Mic 5:2 and compare them to what angel Gabriel and Mary said in Luke 1:31-34. How accurate were the prophecies given by these prophets? Based on your answer, how encouraged are you?
- 5. What is commendable about Mary's disposition to everything the angel had told her? In what way can you emulate her example?
- 6. Why did Mary visit Elisabeth? What impact did the presence of Mary have on both Elisabeth and her unborn son? What caused the impact?
- 7. How would Mary feel when Elisabeth said, "And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?"

Personal Meditation

God works in ways we may not understand. And that is alright; remember, He is God. When angel Gabriel delivered God's message to Mary, she wondered and asked how the event would play out since she never had relations with a man. It is okay to ask. You might wonder why angel Gabriel made Zacharias unable to speak in similar situation. Though Mary and Zacharias were in similar situations, how they received the angel's message was different. Mary believed the word of God unlike Zacharias (Luke 1:20). Mary embraced the message, whereas Zacharias identified why it would be impossible for the message to come true. This is wisdom for you: exercise faith in God regardless of what you are faced with. God is absolutely able!

Another thing about Mary is that she visited Elisabeth with whom she could be encouraged seeing that God was doing what is impossible with man in their lives. Both women could relate with each other because they had something in common! Likewise, Christians must fellowship with one another to build encouragement and unity (Prov 27:17).

DAILY STUDY

Monday	Isa 7:14; 9:6-7; Mic 5:2
Tuesday	Luke 1:26-30
Wednesday	Luke 1:31-33
Thursday	Luke 1:34-37
Friday	Luke 1:38-41
Saturday	Luke 1:42-45



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