

The wonder of Jesus

Opening Text: Luke 1:26-38 The Passion Translation (TPT)

1. **Every ingredient of the story of the birth of Jesus is exceptional, it literally is stuff out of this world.**

The story of the birth of Jesus is painted to us in vibrant colours, dynamic and full of power. We see

- The Holy spirit in action,
- The power of the Most High
- The cloud of God's glory
- Promises full of power
- Statements like '*For with God nothing will be impossible*' (NKJV)

I find these ingredients very *attractive*. These are ingredients of the gospel. I cannot imagine a gospel void of power and void of possibilities, or a Jesus short of answers and unable to save, heal and deliver. He is a supernatural Jesus!

2. **Everything about Jesus is wonderful**

V.30 - *But the angel reassured her, saying, "Do not yield to your fear, Mary, for the Lord has found delight in you and has chosen to surprise you with a wonderful gift.*

Jesus is the **wonderful gift** the angel was talking about!

V.32-33 - *³¹ You will become pregnant with a baby boy, and you are to name him **Jesus**. ³² He will be **supreme** and will be known as the **Son of the Highest**. And the Lord God will enthrone him as King on his ancestor David's throne. ³³ He will reign as King of Israel forever, and his reign will have **no limit.**"*

- Yeshuah – 75 times in the Hebrew text translated as victory, welfare, health, deliverance, salvation.
- Supreme (someone of the highest in rank or authority – above everyone)
- Son of the Highest (above everything)
- His reign will have no limit

No limits with Jesus, no impossibilities with Him.

3. **Jesus was a surprise**

V.30 - *But the angel reassured her, saying, "Do not yield to your fear, Mary, for the Lord has found delight in you and has chosen to surprise you with a wonderful gift.*

Jesus was a surprise to Mary, to Joseph, to the Shepherds...

I love how the KJV puts this:

Luke 1:35 KJV - ... that **holy thing** which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

"*Holy thing*"? – did the angel really say that? Yes – how else do you describe someone who is unlike anyone else, who was born unlike anyone was ever born? There were no human words available.

Jesus was amazing even to the angels. The angels knew the Son of God but not even they had ever seen what God in the flesh looked like.

They had to come and see Jesus when He was born! - I believe that they were filled with the same amazement:

Luke 2:9, 13-14

*⁹Suddenly, **an angel** of the Lord appeared in radiant splendour before them, lighting up the field with the blazing glory of God [doxa – the manifestation of the weighty presence of God], and the shepherds were terrified!*

*¹³Then all at once, **a vast number of glorious angels** appeared, the very armies of heaven! And they all praised God, singing: ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest realms of heaven! For there is peace and a good hope given to the sons of men.”*

One angel came but then a vast number of glorious angels came to see Jesus. No one wanted to miss out!

1 Timothy 3:16 - *For the mystery of righteousness is truly amazing! He was revealed as a human being, and as our great High Priest in the Spirit! **Angels gazed upon him as a man** and the glorious message of his kingly rulership is being preached to the nations! Many have believed in him and he has been taken back to heaven and has ascended into the place of exalted glory in the heavenly realm. Yes, great is this mystery of righteousness!*

Let us go back to our opening text and see **Luke 1:38**:

³⁸Then Mary responded, saying, “This is amazing! I will be a mother for the Lord! As his servant, I accept whatever he has for me. May everything you have told me come to pass.” And the angel left her.

4. Responding to Jesus

Then Mary responded...

How to respond to such great news, how to appropriately respond to someone as supreme, as high, as limitless as Jesus?

1. I accept

‘I accept what whatever He has for me’

2. I agree

‘May everything you have told me come to pass,’ in other words “amen. So be it”

3. I believe

V. 45 - *Great favour is upon you, for you have believed every word spoken to you from the Lord.”*

4. I worship (worship is the protocol of heaven)

V.46-49 - *⁴⁶And Mary sang this song: “My soul is ecstatic, overflowing with praises to God! ⁴⁷My spirit bursts with joy over my life-giving God! ⁴⁸For he set his tender gaze upon me, his lowly servant girl. And from here on, everyone will know that I have been favoured and blessed ⁴⁹The Mighty One has worked a mighty miracle for me; holy is his name!*

5. I hunger

V.53 - *Those who hunger for him will always be filled but the smug and self-satisfied he will send away empty.*

She was possibly quoting **Psalm 107:9 NKJV**: *For He satisfies the longing soul and fills the hungry soul with goodness.*

Conclusion

Jesus is God's wonderful gift to us. He is God's surprise.

Mary responded... - I accept, I agree, I believe, I worship, I hunger.

We announce precisely the same Jesus the angel announced to Mary. He has come into the world, but has He come into your life? Will you respond and, like Mary, accept all that He wants to do in your life?