

## An Angel from the Realms of Glory

Luke 1:5-45

**Introduction:** Angels were created before mankind and are heavenly beings without souls; they are not redeemable. (1 Peter 1:10-12) A rare but interesting assignment for angels was announcing births.

**Zechariah:** Luke 1:5-25, 57-66, 67-79

**Mary:** Luke 1:26-38, 47-56

**The Virgin Birth** - The importance of the Holy Spirit cannot be overstated when we speak of the incarnation of Jesus Christ. (Luke 1:35)

**Summary:** The Miracle of John's birth was that his parents were too old, past childbearing and by then their faith in God's provision had waned into resignation. The Miracle of Mary was that she was a virgin who would be impregnated by the Holy Spirit and she would bear the God-Man, Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**Joseph:** Matthew 1:18-25; Mark 6:35; Matthew 13:55

**Summary:** Joseph is a type of Christ: he sticks with his future bride; like Jesus, he remained committed to bringing forth children for the future marriage supper of the Lamb - Revelation 20

**Conclusion:** Two things weave themselves together in this narrative; first, faith is trusting God unconditionally; second, doubts are free to seek for understanding; but our response should be driven by faith that God keeps his promises and to rest in that fact.

Whenever God acts the Holy Spirit is involved and the birth of Jesus Christ is the consummate miracle of the Holy Spirit.

Mary and Elizabeth point us to Christian actions during this season of the year. First, Mary has simple childlike faith in the promises of God. Second, Elizabeth has true joy that she is included in this wonderful event, celebrating the blessing from this miracle child.

The story makes us uncomfortable with God yet God is very comfortable with it, he orchestrated it thus; Meekness and Majesty are wrapped in mystery.

An angel from the realm of glory is pretty unusual but they are simply messengers; don't get caught up in the messenger, listen carefully to the message and carry it to those who need to hear it.