

Overcoming The Advent Conspiracy
“Choose Faith Over Fear!”

Luke 1:26-38
December 6, 2015

Luke 1:26, In the sixth month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. ²⁸The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.” ²⁹Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. ³¹You will conceive and give birth to a Son, and you are to call Him Jesus. ³²He 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, ³³and He will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; His kingdom will never end.” ³⁴“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” ³⁵The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on 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... ³⁷For no word from God will ever fail.” ³⁸“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May Your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.

Isaiah 7:14, Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a Son, and will call Him Immanuel.

Galatians 4:4, But when the set time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman...

What Do We Learn, Hope, And Fear From This Story?

1. God’s Interruptions Are Often INCONVENIENT

Luke 1:28, The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.” ²⁹Mary was

greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

2. What We Call Interruptions, God Calls INVITATIONS

Luke 1:30, But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. ³¹You will conceive and give birth to a Son, and you are to call Him Jesus.

What Is Fear? False Evidence Appearing Real

What Are Your Greatest Fears To Following God?

2 Timothy 1:7, For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.

3. God’s Purpose Is Often Different Than YOUR PLANS

Luke 1:32, 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, ³³and He will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; His kingdom will never end.

Isaiah 55:8, “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways,” declares the LORD. ⁹“As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.”

4. God’s Power Trumps Every SITUATION

Luke 1:34, “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” ³⁵The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on 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... ³⁷For no word from God will ever fail.”

**5. Obedience Is My Responsivity—God’s Responsible For
The RESULTS**

Luke 1:38, *“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May Your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.*

Psalm 81:13, *“If My people would only listen to Me, if Israel would only follow My ways...”*

What’s Next:

1. Follow the Pastor’s daily Advent devotionals
@johnmarkcaton or www.johnmarkcaton.com.
2. Make plans for you and your family to attend one of our
Christmas Eve Services at 2:00p, 4:00p or 6:00p.