

The Birth of Jesus Foretold



To us a Child is born, to us a Son is given.
Isaiah 9:6

Luke 1:26-38 - *The Angel Appears to Mary*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary.

28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, Oh favored one, the Lord is with you!"

29 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be.

30 And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David, 33 and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

34 And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

35 And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called Holy—the Son of God. 36 And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God."

38 And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Matthew 1:18-25 - *The Angel Appears to Joseph*

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

19 And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. 20 But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 23 “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). 24 When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, 25 but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called His name Jesus.

(Read Also: Isaiah 7:14, Micah 5:2)

A Closer Look: *The Angel Appears to Mary and Joseph*

Joseph

1. **Mary was promised to Joseph as his wife. He was troubled by the news that Mary was going to have a baby. What did he plan to do?** *(Divorce her quietly)*
2. **What changed his mind?** *(An angel appeared to him in a dream)*
3. **What is the first thing the angel told Joseph?** *(Do not be afraid)*
4. **What did the angel ask him to do?** *(Take Mary to be his wife)*
5. **How did Mary become pregnant?** *(By the power of the Holy Spirit)*
6. **Why did the angel say that Jesus was to be born?** *(To save all people from their sin.)*
7. **What did Joseph do when he woke?** *(He followed the angel's commands)*

Mary

8. **How did the angel greet Mary?** *(He said she was highly favored - the Lord was with her)*
9. **What was Mary's reaction?** *(She was troubled)*
10. **What did the angel say to comfort her?** *(Do not be afraid)*
11. **What was the angel's news?** *(Mary would have a son. His name will be Jesus.)*
12. **Mary was a virgin. How did she become pregnant?** *(By the power of the Holy Spirit)*
13. **What would Jesus be called?** *(Holy, Son of God)*
14. **What other news did the angel give to Mary?** *(Elizabeth, her older relative, was also pregnant)*
15. **What was Mary's response?** *(I am the servant of the Lord)*