

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why was Mary chosen to be the mother of Jesus?
2. Do we have to have any qualifications to be chosen of God for His service?
3. How does the birth of Jesus prove that He is the Son of God?
4. In what ways is Jesus' kingdom different from that of all other kingdoms?

SUMMARY:

God sent His angel to announce the birth of His Son to Mary, the chosen mother of Jesus. To be chosen for such a responsible position, her life had to be pleasing to God, full of faith, obedience and understanding of His will. It is also a great blessing to be chosen by God for His service.

The birth of this King was to be different from that of other kings in many ways. His birth was prophesied many years before. As Christ was in the beginning with God, [\[SoF:3\]](#) so shall His kingdom have no end. [\[SoF:2\]](#) Being "the only begotten Son of God" no other birth has ever been of a virgin conceived of the Holy Ghost. [\[SoF:3\]](#) Christ, the Savior, differs from other kings in that He reigns within human hearts. [\[SoF:9\]](#)

NOTES:

[\[SoF:2\]](#) We believe that there is one God who is without beginning or end. [\[SoF:3\]](#) We believe that God is a trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. [\[SoF:4\]](#) We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, born of a virgin, and lived a sinless life. [\[SoF:9\]](#) We believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling the believer is empowered to live a Godly life in spiritual unity with Christ.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #12

December 18, 2016

Fourth Quarter

THE BIRTH OF JESUS ANNOUNCED

LESSON TEXT: *Luke 1:26-38*

LESSON SETTING: In the city of Nazareth, Province of Galilee.

TIME: During the reign of Herod, King of Judea.

- I. THE ANGEL'S APPEARANCE.** Luke 1:26-29
 - A. To a Virgin (vs. 27) Isaiah 7:14
 - B. Favored by God (vs. 28) Proverbs 13:15; 1 Thessalonians 2:4; Hebrews 11:6; 13:16
 - C. Blessed One (vs. 28) Psalms 32:1; 40:4; Luke 11:27-28; Revelation 14:13
- II. THE ANGEL'S ANNOUNCEMENT.** Luke 1:30-37
 - A. Incarnation of Christ (vs. 31) John 1:14; Romans 8:3; Philippians 2:7
 - B. Christ, the Savior - Luke 2:11; John 3:17; 1 Timothy 1:15
 - C. Everlasting Kingdom (vs. 33) Isaiah 9:7; 2 Peter 1:11; Revelation 11:15
- III. MARY'S ACCEPTANCE.** Luke 1:38
 - A. Submission to God's Will - Psalm 40:8; Psalm 143:10; Acts 21:14
 - B. Victorious Faith - 1 Corinthians 16:13; Colossians 1:23

GOLDEN TEXT: *FOR WITH GOD NOTHING SHALL BE IMPOSSIBLE.* Luke 1:37

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: 1 Peter 2:9-25

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Deuteronomy 7:1-11;
Hosea 1:1-11; 1 Timothy 4:12

QUARTERLY THEME: The Early Church

TOPIC: THE CHRISTIAN'S EXAMPLE

INTRODUCTION:

Our walk in the Lord should be a shining light to all with whom we come in contact. In Galatians 5:16, we are told to "walk in the Spirit." Philippians 2:5 tells us to "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus," and in Ephesians 6:10, it said "Finally, my brethren be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might." We are told to love one another and to be holy even as He is holy.

How is it possible to walk in the Spirit, have the mind of Christ, the strength and power of God, to be filled with love and to be holy? Only in receiving the presence of the Holy Spirit can we live according to His will. We cannot be pleasing in His sight by doing rituals, ceremonies, obeying rules and regulations if our hearts and minds are not under His control.

Christ actually lives within us by our faith. He it is that fills our hearts with love, that strengthens us with His might, that fills us with the fullness of God (Ephesians 3:16-20) that we may live in the Spirit and be Christ-like examples.

"For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure." (Philippians 2:13)

CENTRAL TRUTH: Jesus left for Christian believers a pattern of Christian conduct.

GOLDEN TEXT: ... CHRIST ALSO SUFFERED FOR US, LEAVING US AN EXAMPLE, THAT YE SHOULD FOLLOW HIS STEPS:

1 Peter 2:21

When Peter wrote these words he had learned by experience that all who lived godly lives would suffer some measure of persecution in this evil world. So he encouraged all who are chosen and "elect by the foreknowledge of God, the Father" (1 Peter 1:2) to suffer patiently for Christ's sake, as he had first suffered for us all.

How wonderful is the love of Christ, who was willing to suffer first for us, even to death on the cross! He does not ask us to endure anything which He Himself has not endured. "For consider Him that endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin." (Hebrews 12:3-4)

Christ's love for us should increase His love in us, so others might learn of His love through us.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF December 19 – 25

- M. A Holy People. Deuteronomy 7:1-8
- T. A Much Loved People. Deuteronomy 7:7-15
- W. An Example to God's People. Hosea 1:1-11
- T. Demonstrating the Gospel. 1 Timothy 4:12-16
- F. *A Special People. 1 Peter 2:9-15
- S. *A Strict Rule. 1 Peter 2:16-20
- S. *A Glorious Example. 1 Peter 2:21-25

Visit www.accfoundation.org for this and other Bible class lessons