

## 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:

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[\[SoF:2\]](#) 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 #13

December 24, 2023

Fourth Quarter

### THE BIRTH OF JESUS ANNOUNCED

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**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.

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- 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 3:1-22  
**SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES:** Ephesians 5:1-21

**QUARTERLY THEME:** The First Church Officers

**TOPIC:** CHRISTIAN LIVING

**INTRODUCTION:**

Christian living is obeying explicitly two commandments: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself." (Luke 10:27) These commandments can only be obeyed if Christ has full possession of our hearts, then all examples that Peter suggests in 1 Peter 3 will be obeyed.

We are modest, submissive, humble, compassionate, loving, pitiful, courteous, speaking no evil and willing to suffer for His sake. If our hearts are filled with love for God and for our neighbor, then it is impossible that other things can find room therein.

If we obey His commandments, regardless of what may befall us, we know it is for our good, whether it seems that way or not. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God . . ." (Romans 8:28)

**CENTRAL TRUTH:** Those who live godly lives can expect God's blessing, care, and protection.

**GOLDEN TEXT:** *THE EYES OF THE LORD ARE OVER THE RIGHTEOUS, AND HIS EARS ARE OPEN UNTO THEIR PRAYERS.*

1 Peter 3:12

Peter was inspired by the Holy Spirit to write many instructions for righteous living. He exhorts us to follow Christ's example in all things. Then, in this Golden Text He gives this wonderful assurance that should make us willing to put forth every effort toward righteousness. To know that the eyes of the Lord are watching over us, and that His ears are open to our prayers should give us every cause to "live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world." (Titus 2:12)

The Word of God gives us all the instructions concerning His plan for redemption and allows us to make our choice. Peter concludes this Golden Text verse with these words, "but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil."

God grants grace for Christian living, but we must make the choice and put forth our effort, knowing that He will hear our prayers.

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Dec. 25 – 31**

Mon. Considerate Living. Galatians 6:1-10  
Tue. Clean Living. Ephesians 5:1-6  
Wed. Separated Living. Ephesians 5:7-14  
Thu. Wise Living. Ephesians 5:15-21  
Fri. \*Righteous Living. 1 Peter 3:1-7  
Sat. \*Godly Living. 1 Peter 3:8-14  
Sun. \*Christ Our Example. 1 Peter 3:15-22

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