

# The first Christian



<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin engaged to a man named Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And [the angel] came to her and said, "Rejoice, favored woman! The Lord is with you."<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>29</sup> But she was deeply troubled by this statement, wondering what kind of greeting this could be. <sup>30</sup> Then the angel told her: Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> Now listen: You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will call His name JESUS. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. <sup>33</sup> He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end. <sup>34</sup> Mary asked the angel, "How can this be, since I have not been intimate with a man?"<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>35</sup> The angel replied to her: The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the holy One to be born will be called the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> And consider your relative Elizabeth—even she has conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God.<sup>[38]</sup> "I am the Lord's slave,"<sup>[c]</sup> said Mary. "May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel left her. (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

## Footnotes:

- a. Luke 1:28 Or *blessed are you among women*
- b. Luke 1:34 Lit *since I do not know a man*
- c. Luke 1:38 Lit *Look, the Lord's slave*

## 1. God chose who?

Jesus arrives \_\_\_\_\_ a poor, \_\_\_\_\_ from nowhere!

Hebrews 1:2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.

1 Corinthians 1:27 But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

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## 2. The baby is God.

- a. ...\_\_\_\_\_, His \_\_\_\_\_ will have no end. vs. 33
- b. Our \_\_\_\_\_ is unique. vs. 35 ...therefore also that holy thing which shall be born... (KJV)
- c. He \_\_\_\_\_ into the \_\_\_\_\_. John 1:14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

## 3. Mary's response.

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Skepticism. vs. 29 PONDERED: Analytical / weighing things / deliberate.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ surrender. vs. 38 "I am the Lord's slave"

## 4. What's your response?

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Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

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*"For whatever reason God chose to make man as he is— limited and suffering and subject to sorrows and death—He had the honesty and the courage to take His own medicine... He has kept His own rules and played fair. He can exact nothing from man that He has not exacted from Himself. He has Himself gone through the whole of human experience, from the trivial irritations of family life and the cramping restrictions of hard work and lack of money to the worst horrors of pain and humiliation, defeat, despair and death. When He was a man, He played the man. He was born in poverty and died in disgrace and thought it well worthwhile" -Dorothy Sayers, **Creed or Chaos?** New York, Harcourt Brace, 1949, p. 4*

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