

Sunday, 09 December 2007

Luke 1:26-38

Luke 1:26-38 In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy God sent the angel Gabriel to a town in Galilee named Nazareth. He had a message for a young woman promised in marriage to a man named Joseph, who was a descendant of King David. Her name was Mary. The angel came to her and said, "Peace be with you! The Lord is with you and has greatly blessed you!" Mary was deeply troubled by the angel's message, and she wondered what his words meant. The angel said to her, "Don't be afraid, Mary; God has been gracious to you. You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High God. The Lord God will make him a king, as his ancestor David was, and he will be the king of the descendants of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end!" Mary said to the angel, "I am a virgin. How, then, can this be?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and God's power will rest upon you. For this reason the holy child will be called the Son of God. Remember your relative Elizabeth. It is said that she cannot have children, but she herself is now six months pregnant, even though she is very old. For there is nothing that God cannot do." "I am the Lord's servant," said Mary; "may it happen to me as you have said." And the angel left her.

If we trust in God, then everything is possible.

In the first chapter of Luke, we read about two miraculous pregnancies. First we see Elizabeth's pregnancy, and then we read about Mary's. Two simple women, who knew the Lord, and with whom the Lord has found favour. Elizabeth was old, and was not supposed to have kids at that age, and that made her pregnancy a miracle. Mary was the young virgin who has not been with a man before, and thus, she was not supposed to be pregnant either. But God wanted to do a miracle, and so it was.

We find Mary listening to the words of the angel, and wondering how this will be possible. She questions the angel about this, and he told her that a miracle will happen. He assures Mary that this is the will of God, and the child will be the Son of God. The angel assured Mary that this child will be a great King, and God. He told Mary that she should call the baby Jesus, as He will be the Saviour. Shocked, and amazed by what she heard, Mary replied, "I am the Lord's servant, may it happen to me as you have said." She trusted God, and although she could not understand how all of this could happen, she knew that nothing was ever impossible for God, as the angel reminded her when he referred to her cousin, Elizabeth. She was willing to trust God, and by doing this, experiencing a true miracle.

What about you? We are in the advent time, and Christmas is within only a few more days. We are preparing ourselves for a time of celebration and festivities, buying gifts, and butting up trees. But are we preparing ourselves for a miracle to happen in our lives? This can be just another Christmas, with gifts and loves-ones around us, or it can be a Christmas where we allow Christ to be born in our heart. More and more, Christ is getting left out of Christmas, and we forget that He is actually the reason for this celebration. But you know what, even if Christ gets born over and over, thousands of times in the town of Bethlehem, but never in our hearts, it will still have no impact on our lives. Maybe it is time for us to give back the day to Christ, and allow Him to be the Saviour, born for me and you, the one who came to save us. Will you make Him your Saviour this Christmas?

* Should you wish to write me, and are in need of someone who would listen and pray with you... Please do. david@davidniebuhr.com

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