"Miraculous Christmas" Luke 1:26-38 Christmas Eve 2019

The Purpose of Luke's Gospel – Luke 1:4 so that <u>you might know the exact truth</u> about the things you have been taught.

To tell the whole accurate account of life of Jesus Christ. This is Scripture, God's Word.

Christmas – is the "First Advent of the Son of God" (His first coming)

Christmas – is the "Incarnation of the Son of God" (God taking on flesh)

Christmas – is "Jesus conceived of the Holy Spirit" (Virgin Birth)

The Events of the Very "First Christmas" are "Miraculous!"

- 1. Verses 26-33 Miracle God Becoming Man:
- 2. Verses 34-35 Miracle The Virgin Birth:
- 3. Verses 36-38 Miracle Mary's Great Faith:

1. Verses - 26-33 Miracle - God Becoming Man:

Luke 1:26 Now in the sixth month

Context – Gabriel appeared to Zacharias and announced that his barren wife Elizabeth would bear John the Baptist.

Nazareth – It was this town that Rome would draw a work force from to do labor for Rome.

Luke 1:27 to a virgin

The Bible emphasizes this because of the birth that is going to follow.

Joseph - "to act or add"

of the descendants of David;

The kingly line continued. Jesus Christ would have been the next King of the Jews.

Luke 1:28 The Humility of Mary: "Greetings, favored one!

"unmerited, undeserved grace from God!"

KJV: blessed art thou among women.

Notice it does not say: blessed art thou above women. Luke 1:48

Luke 1:29 But she was very perplexed at this statement,

Mary was not omniscient and did not know all things.

The Spiritual Depth of Mary:

and kept pondering what kind of salutation this was.

The word **pondering** – "to take an inventory, to estimate, reason, reckon, suppose, think"

Psalm 119:78 But I shall meditate on Thy precepts.

Luke 1:30 The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary;

Mary's response is classic to people that encounter angels. That the Christmas story has awe and fear.

Luke 1:31 The name **Jesus –** Hebrew **Joshua** which means "salvation, Jehovah Saves, Jehovah Is Salvation"

Luke 1:32 "He will be great,

He will be God in flesh.

and will be called the Son of the Most High;

Verse- 31 conceive in your womb, and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus.

God would become man. The great miracle. **Incarnation -** Though the word itself does not appear in Scripture, its components ("in" and "flesh") do. **John 1:14 the Word became flesh.**

He also wrote of Jesus coming in the flesh (1 John 4:2; 2 John 7)

Isaiah described God in flesh 700 years before Jesus' birth.

Isaiah 7:14 Immanuel It means "the very presence of the virgin-born Child brings God to His people" **Isaiah 9:6**

Mighty God means "The hero God" Thus the phrase means a hero whose chief characteristic is that He is God.

Jesus, for all practical purposes, was "God With Skin On"

Hebrews 2:17 (We are sinners) Romans 6:23; Romans 5:6-8

and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; 2 Samuel 7:8-16 Davidic Covenant.

Luke 1:33

God Becoming Man Is Miraculous: So He could be the perfect sacrifice for sin!

2. Verses - 34-35 Miracle - The Virgin Birth:

Luke 1:34 "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"

"How could there be a natural child when Mary has not had relations?"

Scriptures Emphasize That Mary Was A Virgin: Luke 1:27

The OT Foretold This Miracle: Isaiah 7:14

Matthew 1:18, 20

Luke 1:35 "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; That Mary would conceive of the Holy Spirit.

overshadow - The word "Describes God's presence in the sanctuary"

Why is the Virgin Birth Important? If the conception of Mary was of a man, then Jesus is not God but a man, and if He is a man, we cannot be forgiven of our sins because only God can forgive. John 3:6

and for that reason the <u>holy Child</u> shall be called the <u>Son of God</u>. (God in Flesh)

The Virgin Birth Is Miraculous: It proves Jesus was divine. It sets the time of the incarnation not later!

3. Verses - 36-38 Miracle - Mary's Great Faith:

Luke 1:36

Luke 1:34 And Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"

God gives a sign to Mary by breaking the silence about Elizabeth's impending birth. She has been in seclusion because of her husband's unbelief.

Luke 1:37 "For nothing will be impossible with God." Literally "For not impossible will be every word with God."

What a promise to hold on to, the reality that God can do the miraculous.

God's words to Sarah who laughed at her having a child. **Genesis 18:14**"Is anything too difficult for the LORD?

Luke 1:38

Mary by faith gave herself in submission to God: And Mary said, "Behold, the bondslave of the Lord; may it done to me according to your word."

Mary models Faith & Submission; we will never <u>experience Jesus</u> and <u>His ongoing power</u> without surrendering to Him.

Mary knew her story would be questioned, Joseph himself doubted. **Matthew 1:19**

How do These Truths Affect Me this Christmas Eve? What needs to happen?

Application:

- Confess That I Am A Sinner, I Have Sinned Against God: Romans 3:23
 Luke 2:10-11 (Jesus Is Called The Savior Because Mankind Is Lost!)
- 2. Repent Turn, Forsake Your Sins (U-turn) A New Direction.
 Acts 3:19
- 3. Receive Believe, Place Your Faith In Jesus Christ. John 10:9