

“Fear Not; You’re Loved!”

Luke 1:26-55

East Berlin Community Church

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Introduction

- Fear of the speaking in front of people
- Application of *“Perfect love casts out fear!”*
- The dream of every Jewish girl to be the mother of the Messiah
 - Isaiah 7:14-- *“Therefore, the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.”*
 - Isaiah 9:6-7-- *“For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulders. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.”*
- Mary in the right place at the right time—God’s plan
 - Luke 1:26-27-- *“Now in the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary.”*
 - Isaiah 9:1-- *“In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali but in the future, he will honor Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan.”*
- Mary’s initial reaction—Fear
 - Luke 1:28-29-- *“And having come in, the angel said to her, ‘Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!’ But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was.”*

In experiencing God’s love....

A. Mary is OVERTAKEN by God’s GRACE.

1. **By grace, Mary is saved.**
 - a. **Mary expresses her need of a savior.**
 - Luke 1:46-47-- *“My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior!*
 - Genesis 15:6-- *“Abraham believed in the Lord and He accounted it to him for righteousness.”*
 - b. **Sinless-ness, immaculate conception of Mary?**
 - Ephesians 1:6-- *“To the praise of the glory of His grace, by which he has made us accepted in the beloved!”*
2. **By grace, Mary is chosen to be the mother of the Messiah.**
 - Luke 1:30-33-- *“Then the angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father, David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.”*

FIVE things which will be true of her son

- a. He will be great!
- b. He will be *“called the son of the Most High”*
- c. He will be given the throne of His father, David.
- d. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever.

- e. His kingdom will not end.
 - 2 Samuel 7:13-14, 16 -- *"build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he shall be My son...And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever."*

B. Mary is OVERSHADOWED by God's PRESENCE and POWER

- Luke 1:28-- *"Rejoice, highly favored one; the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women."*
1. **We too are overshadowed by God's presence and power.**
 - a. Nothing or no one can harm us. No worries.
 - Hebrews 13:5b-- *"I will never leave you nor forsake you!"*
 - Hebrews 13:6-- *"The Lord is our helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me!"*
 - b. Nothing is too difficult for God to handle.
 2. **Overshadowed by God's presence and power, Mary was able to conceive the sinless Son of God.**
 - Luke 1:34-- *"Then Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I do not know a man?'"*
 - Luke 1:35-- *"the angel answered and said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.'"*
 - a. **The Holy Spirit controls the process.**
 - Acts 1:8-- -- *"but you shall receive power, after which the Holy Spirit is come upon you"*
 - b. **The Father protects the process and creates the human body.**
 - Acts 7:48-- *"However, the Most High does not live in houses made by men. As the prophet says: Heaven is my throne and the earth is my footstool."*
 - Psalm 139:11-17-- *"If I say, 'Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,' even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you. For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!"*

C. Mary is OVERWHELMED with God's BLESSINGS. – Luke 1:28

1. **Mary is "blessed among" not "above" women.**
2. **Mary expresses how overwhelmed she is in her Magnificat.**
 - Luke 1:46-55-- *"And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. For He has regarded the lowly state of his maidservant; For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. For He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name. And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation. For He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty. He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.'"*
3. **We too have been "overwhelmed with God's blessings"**
 - Ephesians 1:3-- *"blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ."*
 - Ephesians 1:4-5-- *"chosen before the foundations of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ--to the praise of His glorious grace!"*
 - Ephesians 1:7-- *"redemption through his blood the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace!"*
 - Ephesians 1:13b-14-- *"sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory."*

4. **We experience God's blessings by faith**

- Luke 1:39-45-- *"Now Mary rose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, and entered the house of Zecharias and greeted Elizabeth. And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For indeed as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord.'"*
- Ephesians 2:4-5-- *"But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)"*
- Ephesians 2:8-9-- *"For it is by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast."*