

Connect360: God Will Send His Son

December 4, 2025

- *Lesson Two in the Connect360 unit “God Fulfills His Promises” focuses on Luke 1:26-38.*

Although the divine announcement to Mary came from the same angel who gave Zechariah a similar message, this message came to a different location and to a very different set of circumstances.

Zechariah was in fervent prayer for a child. Having children at this point in Mary’s life was out of the question.

Zechariah was in the Holy Place in the Temple in Jerusalem. Mary was in her hometown of Nazareth, a small obscure village in Galilee.

Zechariah was a priest, and his wife Elizabeth was from the line of Aaron. Mary was betrothed to Joseph of the house of David.

Then we get to the heart of the miracle. For Zechariah and Elizabeth, the birth of John was a remarkable answer to decades of prayer, waiting, ostracism and shame.

For Mary, Jesus’ birth was truly miraculous.

While there was Old Testament precedent for elderly, barren couples having a child in their old age, a virgin birth was completely unheard of.

Mary’s description as a virgin who was betrothed is mentioned twice prior to her name being revealed.

There was no question in Luke’s mind or ours, this miracle birth was solely

God's doing.

Jesus would be born into history, not out of it. Luke was not condemning normal family relationships or saying Mary was a pure, holy vessel for God to use.

In Mary's eyes, her virginity was an obstacle for God.

For us, we see the second Adam did not have a father like everyone else either (1 Corinthians 15:45-49).

A new work was taking place that was just as astonishing as creation itself.

The Creator was becoming the creation.

While Jesus did not have a dad like you or I do, he did have a mom—and even Jesus would learn from and need his mom throughout his earthly life and ministry.

Gabriel's greeting announced the favor God bestowed upon her and gave her a promise.

Like Moses who needed assurance of what God said would happen (Exodus 3:12), the promise of God's presence with Mary came at the very beginning of her conversation with God's messenger.

Gabriel's message was not a wish for God to be with Mary, as we would say "The Lord be with you."

He gave a statement of fact, brimming with confidence in God's true nature.

The promise was also not given with any qualification. God made the commitment to Mary, just like Mary already made a commitment to Joseph.

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