1 - **The Faith Of Mary**

Luke 1:26-38

2 - **Historical Context** –

* 400 years of silence since Malachi last prophesied.
* **Should have been a time of anticipation** for the **Messiah** and the **Kingdom**. (Daniel 2:44; 7:13-14; Isaiah 7:14; 9:6-7; John 5:39; Acts 13:27; 3:17-18)
* **Some were anticipating**! (Luke 2:25; 23:51; 24:21)

3 - **In The Fulness Of Time…**

* **God chose to bring about the redemption of man in His time**. (Galatians 4:4-7; Ephesians 1:8-10; Romans 5:6; 1 Timothy 2:6)
* **Preceded by the forerunner, John the Baptist**. (Malachi 4:5-6; Matthew 11:14; 17:10-13)
* **Zacharias and Elizabeth chosen by God to be John’s parents.** (Luke 1:5-7)

4 - **John’s Responsibilities…**

* ***“In the spirit and power of Elijah”*** (Luke 1:17; John 1:21; Matthew 11:13-14)
* ***“Turn back many of the sons of Israel”*** to God. (Luke 1:16)
* He will ***“go (as a forerunner) before”*** the Messiah. (Luke 1:17)
* ***“Make ready a people prepared for the Lord”*** (Luke 1:17)

5 - **Jesus’ Birth Foretold…** (Luke 1:26-38)

**The angel Gabriel sent to Nazareth, first to Mary.**

* “***Hail favored one, the Lord is with you***.” (vs. 28)
* Mary was “***perplexed***” by this. (vs. 29; cf., vs. 12)
* Told, “***Do not be afraid****…* ***you have found favor***… ***you will bear a son… Jesus… He will be great… Son of the Most High… God will give Him the throne… His kingdom will have no end…***” (vs. 30-33; Luke 2:34-35)
* Mary asks, *“****how can this be****, since I am a virgin?”*
(vs. 34; cf., vs. 27; Matthew 1:23 Isaiah 7:14)

6 - **Jesus’ Birth Foretold…** (Luke 1:26-38)

The angel Gabriel responds to Mary.

* **Note the lack of rebuke for her question.**(1 Peter 1:10-12)
* *“The* ***Holy Spirit will come upon you****, and* ***the power of the Most High will overshadow you****; for that reason the* ***holy Child shall be called the Son of God****.”* (vs. 35; cf., vs. 32; Matthew 1:18-20)
* **We must believe Jesus is the Son of God through the Holy Spirit!** (Matthew 16:15-20)

7 - **The Call To Faith…** (Luke 1:26-38)

The angel Gabriel responds to Mary.

* ***“For nothing will be impossible with God.”*** (vs. 37)
* Lit. “**every word of God is not powerless**”.
(Zechariah 8:6; Genesis 18:14; Job 42:2; Jeremiah 32:17, 27; **Matthew 19:26**).
* **A call to believe** in **God’s eternal omnipotence, omniscience & omnipresence**.
* **Is it still true today?** What can accomplish through us today? (Eph. 3:20-21; Phil. 3:13; Heb. 13:21)

8 - **Mary’s Response Of Faith…** (Luke 1:26-38)

***“And Mary said, ‘Behold, the bondslave of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word.’”*** (Luke 1:35)

* Willing to accept anything God asks of her - expressing **total surrender /submission - at His word**! (note Luke 1:46-55; Matthew 5:5)
* **Because God said so**! We ought to act ***“at Your word”*** (1 Kings 18:36; Numbers 16:23ff; Luke 5:5)
* ***“Whatever He says to you, do it!”*** (**John 2:5**)

9 - **Mary’s Response Of Faith…** (Luke 1:26-38)

* ***“Your will be done”*** (Luke 22:42; Acts 21:14; Philippians 2:14; James 1:21)
* **How Paul viewed himself.** (1 Corinthians 3:5; 4:1)
* ***“At Your word”*** - (1 Kings 18:36; Luke 5:5)
* Elizabeth, “***filled with the Holy Spirit***” recognized the faith of Mary, saying, “***Blessed is she who believed*** *that there would be* ***a fulfillment*** *of* ***what had been spoken to her by the Lord***”. (1:41, 45; cf., Acts 27:25)

10 - **Mary’s Expression Of Faith & Praise…** (Luke 1:46-55; cf., 1 Samuel 2:1-10)

* **One who continues to “*exalt the Lord*”.** (vs. 46;
2 Samuel 7:26; Philippians 1:20)
* **One who “*rejoices*” in *“God my Savior”*.** (vs. 47; Matthew 1:21; Psalms 35:9; 122:1; 1 Samuel 2:1)
* **One who maintained a “*humble state*”** (vs. 48; Psalms 138:6; Isaiah 57:15; 66:2) **and thought about the generations to come**. (vs. 50; Psalms 145:1-4;
2 Samuel 7:18)

11 - **Mary’s Expression Of Faith & Praise…** (Luke 1:46-55; cf., 1 Samuel 2:1-10)

* **One who speaks reverently of God’s mercy and the “*great things”* He has done for all who fear Him.** (vs. 49-51; Psalms 103:17-18; Luke 8:39; Ephesians 1:3)
* **One who recognizes that God rules both the humble & the proud and sustains the spiritually hungry.** (vs. 52-53; 1 Timothy 1:16-17; 6:15-15; Matthew 5:5-6; Psalms 103:1-5)
* **One who has fulfilled His promises. (vs. 54-55)**

12 - **Mary’s Life Of Faith & Praise…** (Luke 1:46-55; cf., 1 Samuel 2:1-10)

* **Faith in Jesus’ power and doing whatever He says.** (John 2:5)
* **Faith that all of us need to do His will**.
(Luke 8:19-21)
* **Faith in the salvation through His death on the cross.** (John 19:25-27)
* **Faith that Jesus is on His throne reigning**. (Acts 1:14)