

LESSON 2

INFANCY NARRATIVES OF JOHN & JESUS FROM LUKE'S GOSPEL

B. THE BEGINNINGS: INFANCY OF JOHN THE BAPTIZER AND JESUS THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF JESUS AT THE JERUSALEM TEMPLE: Luke 1:5—2:39

THE ANGEL GABRIEL COMES TO MARY

Luke 1:26-38

26 In the sixth month *God sent* the angel **Gabriel** to a town in Galilee called Nazareth,
27 to a **virgin** (Gk.: *parthenos*; Heb.: *almah* – Isaiah 7:14; cp. Genesis 24:43, not *bethulah* – Genesis 24:16) *engaged* to a man by the name of **Joseph, a descendant of David.**
The virgin's name was **Mary** (Heb. = Miriam).

28 When the angel entered her home, he said, "*Greetings/Rejoice, you who are greatly favored/blessed.* "The Lord is with you." **Quote Just, Jr. Luke 1:1—9:5. p. 67.**

29 She was startled by what he said and tried to figure out what such a greeting might mean.

30 The angel told her, "Stop being afraid, Mary. You have found *favor* with God. (Lanski: "she has been shown grace by God.") **31** You see: You will conceive and give birth to a **Son**, and you will name Him **JESUS**. **32** He will be great and will be called the **Son** of the **Most High**, and the **Lord God** will give Him the throne of **His** ancestor David. **33** He will be **King** over the people of Jacob forever, and His **Kingdom** will never end."
(See John 12:34; Daniel 2:44.)

34 Mary asked the angel, "How can this be? I have had no relations [sexual relations] with a man."

35 The angel answered her, "The **Holy Spirit** will *come over* you, and the power of the **Most High** will *overshadow* you. And for that reason the **Holy Being** (neuter gender; think: from/of another world) **being born** (Gk.: *present participle*) of you will be called the **Son of God**. (Incarnation [*in carnis*] = most difficult miracle of ALL time – see 1 Timothy 3:16. Nicene Creed: "was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man." Dr. Just: Mary's womb becomes "the flesh-and-blood home" of the incarnate Son of God.)

36 "Also consider the fact that even Elizabeth, your relative, has conceived a son in her old age. People call her childless, but she is now in her sixth month. **37** There is nothing that God will not be able to do."

38 "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. (Cp. 1 Samuel 1:11 [LXX] - Hannah.)
"Let it happen to me as you said." **Quote Just, Jr. Luke 1:1—9:5, p. 62.**

Then the angel left her.

VIEW THE SIGNIFICANT CHIASM/STEP PARALLELISM OF VERSES 26-38b AS SPOTTED AND LAID OUT BY DR. ARTHUR JUST IN HIS CPH COMMENTARY ON LUKE 1:1—9:50 (p. 63) WITH EDITING!!!

- 1:26, 27 **INTRODUCTION** of persons, place, and time framework.
- 1:28a **A** The angel Gabriel comes to Mary.
- 1:28b-29 **B** Mary, the favored one, is troubled at the angel’s word and greeting.
- 1:30 **C** Gabriel announces that Mary has found favor with God.
- 1:31a **D** Mary is going to conceive.
- 1:b-33 **E Designations of the Messiah:**
- 1:34-35a **Jesus**
The **Child** will be great
Son of the **Most High**
King over the house of Jacob forever
- F The virgin will conceive.**
Mary’s question: “How will this be, since I have not been with a man sexually?”
Gabriel’s reply: “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the
the Most High will overshadow you.”
- 1:35b **E Designations of the Messiah:**
“The **Child** being born will be holy;
He will be called the **Son** of **God**.”
- 1:36 **D** Elizabeth has conceived in her old age.
- 1:37 **C** Gabriel proclaims that with God “nothing” will be impossible.
- 1:38a **B** Mary, the servant, submits to Gabriel’s word.
- 1:38b **A** The angel Gabriel departs from Mary.

MARY VISITS ELIZABETH; HER SONG

Luke 1: 39-56

39 At this time Mary hurried away to the hill country to a town of Judah. **40** There she went into the home of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth.

41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb. Then Elizabeth was filled with the **Holy Spirit**, **42** and she cried out in a loud voice, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the **Child** who will come from your womb. **43** But how does this happen to me that the mother of my Lord [*theotokos – B of C, F.C. twice*] comes to me?"

44 As soon as I heard your greeting, the baby leaped **with delight** in my womb (**recall 1:15b**). **45** And blessed is she who believed that the Lord will accomplish what He promised to do for her."

46 Mary said:

"My soul magnifies (the *Magnificat*) the **Lord**,

47 and my spirit delights in **God**, my **Savior**,

48 because **He** has looked with favor on the **low estate** of **His** servant.

Yes, from now on—

throughout all generations—

people will call me blessed

49 because **He** has done great things to me—

He who is mighty,

whose Name is holy,

50 and **His** mercy from generation to generation is for those who **fear Him**.

51 "Mighty are the deeds **He** has done with **His arm** (think: exodus from Egypt).

He has scattered those who think so arrogantly in their hearts;

52 **He** has pulled down strong rulers from their thrones

and lifted up lowly people.

53 Those who were hungry, **He** has filled with good things,

and the rich **He** has sent away empty-handed.

54 **He** has come to help **His** servant Israel

in order to remember **His** mercy, **55** (as **He** promised our fathers),

the **mercy** **He** has for Abraham and his descendants forever."

56 Mary stayed ("abided") with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home.