

Chosen & Blessed to Receive God's Gracious Gift

Luke 1:26-45

Eph. 1:3-8; 13-14

God's Chosen Recipient of Grace: Mary as mother to Jesus (v. 28-30).

Chosen Recipient of Grace: Believers as Adopted sons thru Jesus.

Mary's Initial Reaction:

Our Instinctive Reaction:

"How can this be, since I'm a virgin (v.34)?"

How can this be, since I'm a sinner (v. 7-8, 1 Tim. 1:12-16)?

The Holy Spirit's Work:

Son of Mary: Fully man (v.31).

The Holy Spirit's Work:

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you . . . (v.35)."

Son of the Most High / Son of David:
Fulfilling God's promises (v.32-33).

Fill, seal, and guarantee of our inheritance (v.13-14).

God's Gift: Jesus sent through Mary.

Son of God: Fully God (v.35).

God's Gift: Jesus sent in us.

Mary's Calling: Carry the Son, and care for His needs.

Our Calling: Carry the Son, and do His deeds (2 Cor. 5:20; Eph. 2:10).

Mary's Response:

Believe and humbly receive God's calling on His terms (v.38, 45).

Our Rightful Response:

"Live a life worthy of the calling you have received (Eph. 4:1)."

Mary's Role in the Eyes of Others:

Blessed to bear and care for the Son (v. 42, 45; 11:27).

Our Role in the Eyes of Jesus:

More blessed as those who hear and obey Him (Lk. 11:28).

Applying God's Word to Life

- 1) Describe a time when you were surprised by God's Word or by a calling He placed upon your life? How did you respond? Why?
- 2) What are some of the "impossibilities" in life that could tempt you to doubt God's promises and plans?
- 3) What are some good reasons to follow Mary's example of belief and humble submission to God's call on our lives?
- 4) Describe the blessings we are promised as those who respond to God's invitation to carry his Son into the world?
- 5) What are some of the burdens we are to bear in receiving God's gift and His calling upon our lives?

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