

Prophecy Fulfilled...

Luke 1:26-56

- I. (v.26-38) Gabriel once again is sent to announce, in what appears to be, Elizabeth's 6 month of pregnancy. His announcement continues to show that this entire coming of "the foretold one" is _____, **God sets forth two birth situations that would normally seem impossible:**
- Elizabeth, conceiving well past the normal age of having children.**
 - Even more miraculous, defying science itself, **that Mary would conceive while remaining a _____.**
 - Note: "He will be great"** Mentioned about both John & Jesus (v.15 & 32), but the context of John's greatness is as the forerunner- the _____ of the Most High, where the context of Jesus' greatness is referred to as the _____ of The Most High (**Matt. 11:11; Jn. 3:30**)

II. The importance of the virgin birth:

- No one but God could rightly pay for our sins, so it had to be God who came. Thus the virgin birth... meaning Jesus had to be a _____ of God, through the mechanism of birth through a human-woman, thus the God-man, which is the "Incarnate" God (**Phil. 2:6-8**).
- The Virgin Birth was also a fulfillment of _____** (**Is. 7:14**) **NOTE:** Scholars and critics sometimes debate over the true meaning of the word "virgin" here, whether it truly means "**virgin**" or just simply "**maiden**". *The Hebrew word has a semantic range that includes "virgin" but is less specific. The Greek word chosen by the translators of the LXX - παρθένος - which is more specific to the lack of any sexual experience- a true virgin.*¹ So, in Matthew's account (writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit), he purposely quotes from the Septuagint (LXX, written 300-200 BC) in order to make the distinction, which clearly differentiates Mary as a literal virgin, thus qualifying the miraculous thought that

Jesus had no earthly _____, e.g. He was truly the God-man.

- C. **Messiah had to be born from the bloodline of David,** which He clearly was through Mary (**Luke 1:27; Matt. 1:1**).

- Important question: "How do you know that Christianity isn't just a fairy tale, made up by people to help them cope with hardship and death, and deal with life? How do we know that it's more than that?"

Ans:

- Historical Record through Eyewitnesses
- Prophecies which Jesus _____ (**Is. 44:6-7**) (*Prophecy Slides...*)

- D. **Keep in mind that Mary,** after being told she would conceive, humanly speaking, **was in a deeply embarrassing and _____ position:**

- She had to face the shock from _____ and the risk of losing him, as he knew the child was not his.
- She knew she could easily be seen as an unwed mother by all and therefore would be accused of _____ - which was punishable by stoning to death (*Duet. 22:13-21; Jn. 8:3-5*)
- Facing all of this, she _____ counted herself blessed and would, no doubt, have to trust in the Lord to plow the path ahead of her. Having received this news, she was excited to go be with Elizabeth.

III. (v. 39-56) The Visit- Two Responses: (*Elizabeth & Mary*)

- Elizabeth-** Filled w/ the Holy Spirit, the target of her praise is not as much on Mary but more so the _____ whom she bore, the long-hoped for Messiah. Elizabeth's grasp of the situation was extraordinary, regardless of the biological miracles of both she and Mary's conception...
- Mary-** Filled with Old Testament allusions & quotations (Hanna's prayer, the law, Psalms & Prophets), showing that Mary's heart and mind were saturated with the _____ of God. This entire passage is a point by point reciting of the Covenant promises of God.