

Chapter 1

Mary's Baby (Luke 1:26-38)

Mary was alone. She had no idea someone else was in the room. "Mary, I am Gabriel, an angel of the Lord. You are going to have a child soon. You will call him Jesus, and he will be the Son of God. He will be given the throne of David, and His Kingdom will never end."

Mary turned and saw a beautiful, glowing light surrounding what appeared to be a man. His angelic-translucent appearance and voice startled her. Why did he say these things to her? At first, Mary did not know what to say.

A million things were going through her mind. "But I am a virgin and have never been with a man. How am I going to have a baby?"

"I understand, Mary, but the Holy Spirit will come upon you and cause you to conceive. You shall call the child Jesus, and He will be God's Son."

The idea seemed odd to her, but she continued to listen. "Mary, Your relative Elizabeth is six months pregnant. You thought this was impossible, but with God, all things are possible."

Mary knew the angel was speaking the truth. He could not have known these things unless God revealed them to him. Mary looked at the angel and smiled. She imagined Elizabeth being pregnant. Her family had given up all hope on God's promise that Elizabeth would have a child. Everyone in the family thought it was impossible because she was barren and old. Elizabeth and Zechariah had tried their entire lives to have children. And now, in their old age, like Abraham and Sarah, they were having a baby.

The angel's words filled her heart with joy. "I am your servant, Lord. May your words come to pass."

After Mary said this, the angel vanished, leaving Mary to stare in astonishment. That night, Mary could not sleep. Her mind would not stop thinking about the angel, her son, and Elizabeth being pregnant. Mary got up in the middle of the night to pack. She was going to see Elizabeth.

Concluding Thoughts

An interesting promise was given to David and his descendants in 2 Samuel 7:12-13. Notice how David's descendants are called the Sons of God and God would establish the throne of one of His descendants forever. Mary was so glad to have God's Son the Messiah inside her. But Mary or the nation of Israel had no clue what God was about to do when He sent His Son.

Chapter 2

Mary And Elizabeth (Luke 1:39-56)

Mary went into hyperdrive throwing her stuff together. She wanted to hurry and leave before the sun came up. She knew it was a long 4-and-a-half-day journey through the Judean hillside to Elizabeth's house.

The sun was hot and brutal. Leaving early would ensure she didn't have to endure the grueling heat of the sun. Mary didn't seem to mind her long, uphill journey. As each day and hill passed, Mary was closer to seeing Elizabeth. The closer she got, the more excited she became. Mary was on a mission and couldn't wait to see her relatives and friends. When Mary got to the house, she knocked on the door.

Everything in Mary's world was quiet but as the door opened, Elizabeth yelled, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!" See Luke 1:42.

The noise startled Mary and almost caused her to fall off the narrow steps that led to the door. Mary knew God operated in the prophetic, but this was amazing. Elizabeth knew she was pregnant without Mary saying anything. Mary was speechless. The words of Elizabeth were a great blessing that confirmed the truth that Mary held deep in her heart and womb. This would be a day Mary and Elizabeth would never forget.

A few minutes later, the two women sat down to talk and share a meal. Here is my rendition of what might have taken place. "It is so good to see you, Mary! I have not felt God's presence like that in a long time. You have no idea how good it is to have

someone to talk to. I have been in seclusion for five months. And my husband Zechariah has not said a word after the angel Gabriel told him we would have a baby."

Mary laughed. "I know Gabriel. He told me about my child and your pregnancy. That is the reason I came." Both women thanked God for all the great things that He had done.

Elizabeth reached across the table to give Mary some bread and asked, "How long are you in for?"

"Well, said Mary, I had not given it much thought. I was hoping to help in any way I could and see the baby."

Elizabeth told one of her servants to prepare the extra room upstairs. "It will be a joy to have you."

The two women had a great time reminiscing. Mary's visit was a tremendous help and a special blessing. The Lord used both of them to comfort and encourage each other. The Holy Spirit inspired Mary and Elizabeth in such profound ways. Mary stayed with Elizabeth through the rest of her pregnancy, and it was a Godsend.

Concluding Thoughts

The example of these women gives us much to think about. Mary and Elizabeth knew the importance of loving, serving, and encouraging each other. I like the way the Holy Spirit showed up. He still shows up in our lives. May we all be more like Mary and Elizabeth, true servants of God who believed in God's Son.

You can read more about the prophetic Journey of Mary Joseph and the rest of her family at <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0DCWDWF68>