

**CHRISTMAS SERIES**  
**"LESSONS FROM THE ANNUNCIATION OF CHRIST'S BIRTH"**  
**LUKE 1:26-38**  
**PART ONE**  
**"NO NEED TO FEAR"**  
**LUKE 1:26-30**

**INTRO:** During this time of the year, those of us who attend church hear messages on the BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST. And, if you are like me, you never tire of hearing of the MIRACLE OF THE INCARNATION. However, the interesting thing is that **TUCKED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ACCOUNT OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST ARE MANY LESSONS THAT WE CAN LEARN FOR OUR CHRISTIAN LIVING TODAY.** So, this year, our CHRISTMAS SERIES is going to focus on the **LESSONS WE CAN LEARN FROM THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST.** All of these lessons are found in one passage...LUKE 1:26-38. Today the message title is **"NO NEED TO FEAR."**

**NOTE:** Coming into this passage of scripture we see the **SECOND OF EIGHT** accounts of the INCARNATION OF CHRIST that is given in scripture. Note the chronological order:

- 1) The Announcement of the Birth of John the Baptist to Zacharias – Luke 1:5-25
- 2) The Announcement of the Incarnation of Christ to Mary – Luke 1:26-38
- 3) The Magnificat of Mary praising God for selecting her – Luke 1:46-56
- 4) The Birth and Life of John the Baptist – Luke 1:57-80
- 5) The Announcement of the Incarnation of Christ to Joseph – Matthew 1:18-23
- 6) The Birth of Jesus Christ – Matthew 1:24,25; Luke 2:1-7
- 7) The Proclamation of the Angels at Christ's Birth – Luke 2:8-14
- 8) The Visit of the Shepherds to Christ's Manger – Luke 2:8-20

**OBSERVATION:** In the text before us today we see a VERY PRACTICAL ADMONITION given to Mary that is a TRUE LESSON TO US – **FEAR NOT!**

***I. NO NEED TO FEAR FROM MARY'S PERSPECTIVE***

**NOTE:** The admonition NOT TO FEAR came to Mary from Gabriel, God's Messenger, and thus it had GREAT DIVINE AUTHORITY!

A. Mary was RECOGNIZED by God with Great Favor – Vss. 28,30

1. The phrases "HIGHLY FAVORED" and "FOUND FAVOR" literally mean **"GRACED" or "ACCEPTED."**

**It is a phrase found in Ephesians 1:6 in reference to ALL BELIEVERS.**

2. The Point Is: **ALL BELIEVERS IN CHRIST ARE RECIPIENTS OF GOD'S GRACE AND ACCEPTANCE.**

**NOTE:** In verse 28 it says that Mary was blessed **"AMONG WOMEN"** not **"ABOVE WOMEN,"** and thus, SHE IS NOT TO BE WORSHIPPED, JUST APPRECIATED.

B. Mary had REASONS to Fear as a Human Being

1. The Fear of How the Conception was going to take place
2. The Fear of What Joseph would think
3. The Fear of How she would be accepted by others
4. The Fear of the Responsibility To Raise Jesus

C. Mary was RELIEVED from Fear By God

1. The Angel Gabriel told Mary to **FEAR NOT!**
2. The Command of God always brings the **STRENGTH OF GOD.**
3. The Promise of God is that **NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE – VS. 37**

**NOTE:** The Fact that Mary was relieved from her Fear is round in verse 38 where she said, **"BE IT UNTO ME ACCORDING TO THY WORD."**

## **II. NO NEED TO FEAR FROM MANKIND'S PERSPECTIVE**

**NOTE:** For the Believer in Christ, FEAR IS THE LACK OF FAITH IN GOD'S PROMISES AND PROVISION. (Matthew 14:22-31)

- A. Believers are RECOGNIZED By God with Favor – Ephesians 1:6
  - 1. We Have Been Saved by God's Grace and Favor
  - 2. We Are Sustained by God's Grace and Favor
- B. Believers have REASON to Fear as Human Beings - **-WITHOUT FAITH!**
  - 1. Fear of the COVID
  - 2. Fear of the Economy
  - 3. Fear of Daily Provision
  - 4. Fear of National Trends
  - 5. Fear of Health Issues
- C. Believers are RELIEVED from Fear by God's Promises
  - 1. When God Commands us to **NOT FEAR, HE WILL GIVE US THE STRENGTH NOT TO FEAR!**
  - 2. The word "FEAR" is found over **500 TIMES** in Scripture.
  - 3. The phrases "**FEAR NOT**" or "**BE NOT AFRAID**" are found over 103 times in the KJV. **One mention in scripture would be enough...103 TIMES IS A MANDATE!**
    - a. Joshua 1:9 – "BE NOT AFRAID...THE LORD THY GOD IS WITH THEE."
    - b. Isaiah 41:10 – "FEAR THOU NOT...I AM WITH THEE."

**NOTE:** **GOD DOES NOT GIVE BELIEVERS THE "SPIRIT OF FEAR. THUS FEAR COMES TO BELIEVERS WHEN WE:**

- Attempt things on our own strength!
- Attempt things WITHOUT FAITH!

**NOTE:** Romans 8:18; 2 Timothy 1:7

### **LESSON/APPLICATION**