

Belief Determines Reception

How you believe determines how you will receive God's blessing.

Zechariah

"In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years." Luke 1:5-7 ESV

"But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great before the Lord.'" Luke 1:13-15a ESV

"And Zechariah said to the angel, 'How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years.'" Luke 1:18 ESV

"And the angel answered him, 'I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time.'" Luke 1:19-20 ESV

Mary

"In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary." Luke 1:26-27 ESV

"And the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.'" Luke 1:30-33 ESV

1. MARY BELIEVED IMMEDIATELY.

"And Mary said to the angel, 'How will this be, since I am a virgin?'" Luke 1:34 ESV

2. MARY BELIEVED INQUISITIVELY.

"And Mary said to the angel, 'How will this be, since I am a virgin?'" Luke 1:34 ESV

"And the angel answered her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy— the Son of God.'" Luke 1:35 ESV

"And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Luke 1:36-37 ESV

3. MARY BELIEVED "IMPRESSIONLY".

"And Mary said, 'Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.' And the angel departed from her." Luke 1:38 ESV