

Sermon Notes

Insights in Luke

#2 – “Gabriel’s Message” – Luke 1:26-38

I. Introduction

A. The virgin birth

1. Controversy about Jesus centers on His beginning and ending within this life.
2. It is cause for thought.

B. Today’s Text: Luke 1:26-38

II. Exposition

A. Verse 26 – “Nazareth”

1. The not so famous village.
 - a. Historical background
 - b. Nathanael’s testimony – John 1:46

B. Verse 27

1. “A virgin” – without question a female who never had sexual relations.
 - a. Jewish practice
 - b. Line of David
 1. II Sam. 7:12,16; Ps 89:35-36; Jer. 23:5; Acts 2:30
2. “Mary”
 - a. Genealogy concerns
 1. Matthew 1:1-16
 2. Luke 3:23-38
 - a. Differences and emphasis of each.
 3. Pastor Don’s position is that Matthew traces the line of Jesus through Joseph, while Luke traces it through Mary. Others may hold that both genealogies track through Joseph.

C. Verse 28

1. “Favored One” of “Full of Grace”

D. Verses 29-31

1. Verse 29 – “Greatly troubled” or “Very Perplexed”
 - a. She knew she was a sinner (1:47)
2. Roman Catholic doctrine on Mariology.
 - a. Pope Pius X, Pope Leo, XIII, and Pope Pius IX
 - b. No co-redeemer of the human race -- I Timothy 2:5
3. Verse 30 – “Found favor”
 - a. Similar to Noah – Genesis 6:8
4. Verse 31 – “Conceive a son”
 - a. The brevity of the statement is colossal!
 - b. “Jesus” – His name encompasses all of His ministry.

E. Verses 32-38

1. Verse 32 – “He will be great”
 - a. Unlike John the Baptist, Jesus’ greatness is unqualified.
 1. Luke 1:5
2. Verse 34 – “How can this be?”
 - a. Note long duration without miracles in Israel.
3. Verse 35 – “Overshadow you”
 - a. Same term used in transfiguration in Matt. 17:5; Mark 9:7 and Luke 9:34.

III. Points for Reflection

- A. Why is the virgin birth so important?
- B. Note the juxtaposition of meekness and majesty in the life and ministry of Christ.
- C. The announcement is the fulfillment of the Davidic covenant.
- D. Mary’s question “How can this be?” in verse 34 is our question as well. The response is the same.