

## **The Annunciations (Luke 1:26-38)**

- Nothing compares with the beautiful story of the nativity in all of human literature
- The narrative of Jesus Christ's incarnation, is piercing because it is historical
- It began with a beautiful account and is a wonderful situation in human life
- The setting of the annunciation amazed many first century Jews due to its location
- Gabriel passed over Judah, a place of rich history for Israel, and came to Galilee
- Galilee was despised by most Jews because of its mongrelized population
- Moreover, Gabriel passed over Judah, then also Jerusalem, & came to Nazareth
- Nazareth was a non-place, a little village completely unknown to most Jews
- The Angel also did not come to the Temple, but to humble Mary, a nobody

### **I. Gabriel's Approach (1:26-29)**

- Gabriel's approach to Mary 1:26-28, Mary was very young: between ages 12 & 14
- Gabriel tells Mary that she is to be a recipient of great blessing & grace from God
- He tells her that the "Lord is with her" so she has God's special favor and presence
- Mary's response reveals a humble servant heart (1:29) she meditates on the words

### **II. Gabriel's Annunciation (1: 30-34)**

- Mary was told by Gabriel that she would have a baby boy & to name him Jesus
- Gabriel revealed to her that He will be great and be called Son of the Most High
- In Gabriel's annunciation she must have got the picture that He was the Messiah
- After reflecting on this she asked a question, how will this be since I am a virgin?
- Mary's heart as a worshipper teaches she had a heart to understand truth
- This is not doubt, but faith's child like inquisitiveness, "how can these things be?"
- It is good for us to seek understanding about the mysteries of our blessed faith

### **III. Gabriel's Explanation (1: 35-38)**

- The answer Mary received wonderfully foreshadowed God's answer to us (v.35)
- The Holy Spirit's overshadowing of Mary, was much like Jesus' transfiguration
- The born again Christian has experienced that overshadowing of the Holy Spirit
- Experiencing the new birth means we've experienced God's power (1 Cor 12: 13)
- Gabriel's mission complete, he left her a sign, Elizabeth would be with child (36)
- Gabriel's parting words sum it up (37) 'for nothing will be impossible with God'
- Mary responded as a true servant ought to, with worship and reverence (v.38)