

BIBLE LIFE MESSAGES

How God Produces Children

Luke 1:26-35

1 How does God produce children? In our scripture today He produced Lord Jesus. Notice how He did it. 2

In Luke, chapter 1, verses 26 through 35, we read, In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ¹ 3

But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." "How will

¹ v26-29.

this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”²

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The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.”^{3 5}

What the Bible says about God producing the Lord Jesus here and how He produces Christians through the new birth are similar. Both involve the Holy Spirit, the living Word and commitment to God's authority. Let me show you.⁶

I. Both are Conceived by the Holy Spirit

Both are conceived by the Holy Spirit.⁷ In verse 35,⁴ the Holy Spirit came upon Mary.⁸ In verse 28,⁵ this is described as the Lord being with her.⁹ So, we can

² v30-34.

³ v35.

⁴ Luke 1:35 - The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

⁵ Luke 1:28 - The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.”

conclude, according to verse 30 ⁶ that the Lord is with those with whom He finds favor. ¹⁰

The Holy Spirit is also involved with the New Birth of Christians. In John, chapter 3, verses 3 through 5, we find, **In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again. “How can a man be born when he is old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb to be born!” Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.** ¹¹

Notice in verse 3 ⁷ the New Birth is absolutely necessary for a relationship with the Lord. In verse 5, ⁸ ¹² it involves water ¹³ and the Holy Spirit. ¹⁴

⁶ Luke 1:30 - But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God.”

⁷ John 3:3 - In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.”

⁸ John 3:5 - Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.”

II. Both are Consummated through the Living Word

Both are consummated through the living Word. ¹⁵ The Word was made flesh in Christ. In John, chapter 1, verses 1 through 3 and verse 14, it says, In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made . . . The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

¹⁶ Notice in verse 3 that the Word was God's agent for creating everything. ¹⁷ Then, in verse 14, the Word became flesh. ¹⁸

The Word of God has made flesh imperishable by giving us eternal life. I would like to point out some things to you from First Peter, chapter 1, verse 22 through 25. Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. For you have been born again, not of perishable

seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God . . . And this is the word that was preached to you. ¹⁹ In verse 25 this Word is the preached Word, but it's concerning the living Word, Lord Jesus. ²⁰ Verse 22 says this Word will purify us when we are obedient to it. ²¹ Also in verse 22 we learn that this Word will bear fruit in our lives. ²²

Now, back to our scripture in Luke.

III. Both have a Confession of Commitment

Both have a confession of commitment. ²³ In Luke, chapter 1, verse 38, Mary made a commitment to the Lord's will. She said, **“I am the Lord’s servant,” . . . “May it be to me as you have said.”** She had a lot to lose: her future husband, her reputation, even her life! She expressed this trust in the Lord in a statement of loyalty. ²⁴

You must make a commitment to the Lord's will! John, chapter 1, verses 12 and 13, **Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the**

right to become children of God — children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. ²⁵

God expects you to express this trust in Him in a statement of loyalty. In Romans, chapter 10, verses 9 and 10, we find, **That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.**

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What is your confession of faith? This is the statement we ask you to make when you are baptized.

There are actually two Good Confessions. ²⁷ The first is in the 16th chapter of Matthew, verse 15 and 16, when the Lord asked, **"Who do you say I am?"** Simon Peter answered, **"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."** The Ethiopian expressed this confession

when Philip asked him if He believed. He responded, **“I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”**⁹₂₈

The second confession is found in Romans, chapter 10, verse 9, which we stated above, **That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” . . . you will be saved.**₂₉

When I ask you to make the Good Confession before I baptize you, I combine them into one confession, "I believe that Jesus is Lord, the Son of God".₃₀

What is God's promise to you when you commit yourself to Him in this way? God gives you the right, the authority, to be His child!¹⁰₃₁

What, then, is the best possible gift you could give this Christmas? Yourself to the Lord as His living sacrifice!

Lord Jesus sacrificed Himself on the cross so you could experience His New Birth. You can now express

⁹ Acts 8:37.

¹⁰ John 1:12 - Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

your appreciation to Him by committing yourself as a living sacrificial life back to Him!

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