

THE DESTINY OF THE MESSIAH
Luke 1.26-38 (The Annunciation)

26 sixth month = Elizabeth's sixth month of pregnancy (verses 24 and 36)

Gabriel also appears in Daniel 8.16; 9.21; Luke 1.19.

verses 11-20 "I am he who stands in the presence of God..."

Nazareth was a small unpopular town in Galilee that is never mentioned in the Old Testament or in any other historical document before Jesus was born. It is also possible that Nazareth had a bad reputation (John 1.46).

27 engagement (betrothal) was more formal and binding in their culture. Money changed hands between the parents to "purchase" the wife. After engagement was official, unfaithfulness was considered adultery and would result in divorce or stoning.

28 Gabriel says, "Greetings favored one! The Lord is with you."

The word translated "greetings" or "hail" means "to be cheerful, to rejoice, especially as a salutation."

29 When was the last time an angel enthusiastically greeted you?

30 "Do not be afraid" (Daniel 8.17; Luke 1.12-13)

31 Jesus (Yeshua) means "Yahweh saves" and was a common name at the time (comparable to our modern name Joshua).

<4004bc>Adam & Eve probably expected that the promise of the One to crush the serpent (Genesis 3.15) would be fulfilled in Cain or Abel so they were greatly disappointed when Cain killed Abel.

<2100bc>Abraham is promised a son and after waiting for 15 years, Isaac is finally born. However, Isaac isn't the One either, in fact very little is said about him except that he favored Esau over Jacob.

Jacob (who's name was changed to Israel), Isaac's son, was not the One

Joseph was the leader of Egypt (2nd only to Pharaoh) but he was not the One

<1400bc>Moses rose to lead the people of God (Israel) out of Egypt and as an intermediary delivered to them their national constitution, the Old Testament Law, yet he was not even allowed to enter the promised land

Joshua was a great warrior who conquered many nations in a short time but he was never declared king and he did not crush the serpent

<1000bc>David was a man after God's own heart who ruled Israel (second king) for forty years. He was promised that one of his descendants would be the One. (1 Chronicles 17.11-14)

Solomon, although he had a great start ended worshiping other gods after marrying 700 women (1 Kings 11.1-8)

Rehoboam (the next descendant of David) caused the split of the kingdom into Israel and Judah.

The other kings were mostly bad with a few exceptions but none of them was the One.
<586bc>The last Davidic king of Judah was Zedekiah who would not listen to Jeremiah the prophet (2 Chronicles 36.11-20) as a result the nation was destroyed and carried away into Babylon. But hope still remained for the One whose right it was to rule the kingdom (Ezekiel 21.24-27).

<538bc>After 70 years, the people were allowed to return to the land but their sovereignty was not fully gained for 400 years when there was the Maccabean revolt.

<134bc>Under the Hasmoneans they won independence. Although they regained almost all the territory that David once ruled over, there was constant civil war as rival factions struggled for control.

<63bc>The Romans conquered the nation and eventually set over them Herod the Great who was not even a descendant of Israel (he was an Edomite).

<~3bc>After 4,000 years of expectation, Gabriel breaks hundreds of years of divine silence by announcing to Mary that the time had come and she would give birth to the One! No wonder he was so excited!

32 He will be great (same as was said of John the Baptist in verse 15)

He will be called = he will be

The son of the Most High (1 Chronicles 17.13)

The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David (Ps 132.11; 1 Chronicles 17.14)

He will reign over the house of Jacob (Israel) forever = He is the One that for more than 1,000 years had been expected by the descendants of David

He is also the One who would undo the sin of Adam by crushing the serpent (Matthew 1.21; John 12.31; Romans 5.12ff)

His kingdom will have no end (Daniel 2.44; 7.13-14).

34 She asked for clarification as to how it would happen

35 This son would be the special creation of God Himself through His creative influence and power, the holy spirit. Just like Adam, (God formed him from the dust) Jesus would be specially made by God without a human father.

For this reason he will be the Son of God. Because he was created/formed by God, he is the Son of God (just like Adam Luke 3.23, 38). (Psalm 2.6-8)

36-37 God can do it, and as proof just look at Elizabeth

38 I believe that this is why she was chosen. She submitted in simple childlike faith. She said, "I'm yours." This is what God wants from all of us. Mary is our example.

She wasn't chosen because of wealth (Mary was so poor she couldn't even offer the regular sacrifice for Jesus (Luke 2.23-24; Leviticus 12.6-8))

She wasn't chosen because of education

She wasn't chosen because of reputation

She wasn't chosen because of where she lived

She wasn't chosen because she had the resources to give the Messiah the best education possible.

She was chosen because she loved God and she would believe regardless of what it meant for her (she was willing to sacrifice her reputation, be socially scorned, hurt the heart of her fiancé, and possibly even be stoned). That's faith. That's what it means to love God with ALL your heart, ALL your soul, and ALL your might (Deuteronomy 6.4-5).

She was given the honor—to give birth to the One, the king of the world, and she would raise him, teach him, and parent him.

I'd be happy if my son just makes it to the kingdom, her son is to be the king of the kingdom.

Luke 1.45-55 Indeed Mary was blessed

Revelation 2.26-28 The destiny of the Messiah is to rule the world (Psalm 2.6-8) and he will share that destiny with you if you overcome and keep his deeds until the end. Do you believe it? Are you willing to sacrifice for him, maybe even stick out in society? Do you accept the words of promise? Will you overcome?