

Luke 1:35-36 (NIV)

[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. [36] Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month.

Luke 1:37-40 (NIV)

[37] For nothing is impossible with God." [38] "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her. [39] At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, [40] where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth.

Luke 1:41-42 (NIV)

[41] When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. [42] In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!"

Luke 1:43-45 (NIV)

[43] But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

[44] As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. [45] Blessed is she who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished!"

God's MERCY Made CLEAR

Luke 1:5-80

1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord.

Always BE PREPARED to give an
answer to everyone who asks you
to give the reason for the hope
that you have.

But do this with **GENTLENESS**
and **RESPECT**...

Mary was young, poor, and female
- all characteristics that the people of that
time - would have thought made her
totally useless to God.

But **God CHOSE Mary** for one of the most
important acts of **OBEDIENCE** He has
ever demanded of anyone.

Mary's FAITH:

- intellectually **BELIEVED** what Gabriel said
- she **TRUSTED** her whole life to God
- she **SUBMITTED**
- moved to **ACTION**

Why should I be surprised at the PLOW
that my Lord uses as it makes deep
furrows on my soul?

I know He is not a frivolous farmer
**His purpose is for there to be a CROP,
a HARVEST, in my life.**

Praise be to GOD HE...

- has come to **REDEEM** His people
- has raise up a **HORN** of salvation
- is bringing **SALVATION**
- is showing us **MERCY**

Praise be to GOD HE...

- has **REMEMBERED** His Covenant with Abraham
- has remembered to **RESCUE** us from our enemies
- rescued us **SO THAT** we can **SERVE** Him without **FEAR**
- rescued us so that we can serve him in **HOLINESS** and **RIGHTEOUSNESS**

Nehemiah 9:31 (NIV)

But in **YOUR GREAT MERCY** you did
not put an end to them or abandon them,
for you are a **GRACIOUS**
and **MERCIFUL** God.

QUESTIONS

1. Why is important to remember NOTHING is IMPOSSIBLE for God?
2. How do we KNOW that God never gives up on us?
3. Why is God's MERCY so important to each of us?