

We continue to look this morning at the attitude of anticipation that surrounded Jesus' birth in Scripture. Last week we spoke about His preexistence

Magi- Matthew 2- gifts to the Baby

Luke 2 shepherds,

- In the beginning

- Before Abraham was, I AM

### **Old Testament prophesy**

*Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.7 Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.*

#### **- Focuses not on His birth but His Kingdom**

*Micah 5:2 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting."3 Therefore He shall give them up, Until the time that she who is in labor has given birth; Then the remnant of His brethren Shall return to the children of Israel.4 And He shall stand and feed His flock In the strength of the LORD, In the majesty of the name of the LORD His God; And they shall abide, For now He shall be great To the ends of the earth;5 And this One shall be peace.*

#### **- Again the focus is His Kingdom**

This morning we look at some New Testament examples and what they were looking for as they anticipated His birth.

*Luke 2:8-14 (NKJV) Angels point to a Savior, a Christ not a baby*

*v.25-35 Simeon sees the Consolation of Israel, the Lord's Christ*

*paraklesis (par-ak'-lay-sis) n.*

1. an imploration, entreaty (urgent request (for mercy or help))
2. an exhortation (urgent counsel, encouragement, or caution)
3. a comfort, solace

v.36-38 Anna sees the redemption of Israel

Matthew 2- The Magi see a king

**And the two we look at today:**

**Joseph-** sees Immanuel- a savior from sins

**Mary's anticipation** is on His Kingdom

Luke 1:26

v.26 Gabriel- in Scripture only two angels are named Michael the Archangel and Gabriel who we see here and in Daniel. Men speak of Archangels but Scripture only refers to Michael as an archangel. There are two other angels called by name in some of the apocryphal books, Raphael and Uriel but these are not Scripture.

*- read through verse 38 and go back to Matthew to discuss Joseph*

**Joseph- Matthew 1:18**

v.18 betrothed- legally married but as yet not consummated

v.19 Joseph a just man- righteous, holy, upright

- we see from the genealogy that this man has the legal right to the throne, yet he is working as a carpenter, later Jesus is called the son of the carpenter as they wonder how He is teaching like this, this lets us know that Joseph was an ordinary man going through his ordinary life .

- not wanting to make her a public spectacle- in the Greek , he purposed not to do it, not just unwilling but adamantly opposed to shaming her

- put her away secretly- he wanted someone wholly dedicated to God

v.20 while he thought- pondered, this was not a snap decision, it even consumes his sleep- haven't there been times when something is so heavy on you that you go to sleep thinking about it, wake up thinking about it, and dream about it

We see Joseph ready to receive the things of God, ready to obey. Here, in the following chapters as he takes his family to Egypt, later as he moves them back. Although he knows that this is an incredible work of God that he is involved in, his part is really rather mundane, not very flashy at all, but vital.

Back to Luke 1:26

v.28 Rejoice, highly favored one or Hail Mary, full of grace

- why favored ? v.30 she found favor, not earned it, not anointed with it, but found favor, this is a young woman who sought after God

- The Lord is with you- this girl is in a relationship, daily consistent walk-ordinary girl

- we know from the genealogy that she also is a descendant of David but also is related on mother's side to Elizabeth so has the heritage of the priesthood also.

- **blessed are you among women- also from Elizabeth v.42 and Mary herself v.48**

v.31-33 remarkable prophesy

- Who is this that she is carrying? *Go to John 1 & Isa. 9:6 through Isa. 9:7*

**His Name will be called Jesus- Joshua, Lord God is become salvation**

*John 20: but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.*

Acts 2:38

<sup>38</sup>*Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

Acts 3:6

<sup>6</sup>*Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."*

Acts 4:8 through Acts 4:12 (NKJV)

<sup>8</sup>*Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders of Israel: <sup>9</sup>If we this day are judged for a good deed done to a helpless man, by what means he has been made well, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole.*

<sup>11</sup>*This is the 'stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief*

cornerstone.<sup>12</sup> Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Acts 5:40

<sup>40</sup>And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

Acts 8:12

<sup>12</sup>But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized.

Acts 8:16

<sup>16</sup>For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Acts 9:27

<sup>27</sup>But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. And he declared to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

Acts 9:29

<sup>29</sup>And he spoke boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus and disputed against the Hellenists, but they attempted to kill him.

Acts 15:26

<sup>26</sup>men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Acts 16:18

<sup>18</sup>And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And he came out that very hour.

Acts 19:5

<sup>5</sup>When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Acts 19:17

<sup>17</sup>This became known both to all Jews and Greeks dwelling in Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.

Acts 21:13

<sup>13</sup>Then Paul answered, “What do you mean by weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.”

1 Corinthians 6:11

<sup>11</sup>And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Philippians 2:10

<sup>10</sup>that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

**Son of the Highest and Son of David/ Son of God and Son of Man**

He will reign forever and ever, no end to His Kingdom

**\* Is our heart and our anticipation for His Kingdom?**

v.34 Mary appears to be stuck on the first part of the prophesy, how often does God reveal great and mighty things to us and we are in awe of step one.

v.37 KEY- with God nothing is impossible

v.38 Mary's response- behold the handmaid of the Lord- Here I am, send me

- Let it be to me according to your word

## Mary's heart about all this

v.40 my soul- the thing that is me- magnifies the Lord

- He has to **be** Lord for us to magnify Him as Lord

v.41 my spirit- that part of us that is capable of being in fellowship with God

- has rejoiced- to jump for joy, i.e. exult:--be (exceeding) glad, with exceeding joy, rejoice (greatly).

- God my savior- Mary like all of us, needed a savior, and accepted that savior

v.48 the lowly state of His maidservant- Mary just wanted to serve God, she realized her unworthiness to do so in her own power

v.49 He Who is mighty has done great things for me

His Name is Holy- how often we sing it, how little we comprehend it

v.50 His mercy is on those who fear Him

- mercy requires nothing from us, it is all Him
- His mercies are new every morning, mercy seat
- remember mercy always required a sacrifice

v.51-53 He gives grace to the lowly and the humble

We have seen all these people used to prepare the way, does God want to use you to prepare the way for His work ?

- You have been created for good works
- You have been given the ministry of reconciliation
- God uses ordinary individual people for His purposes, we are His instruments, His tools

## **What then is necessary ?**

Pursue that consistent daily walk- The Lord is with you

- the Word
- Prayer
- God is pursuing a love relationship with you

Listen to His voice- as Joseph did

- the Word
- prayer

Be empowered for what He tells you to do

Be available and yielded

- always ready to give an answer
- servant hearted
- having His heart of compassion for His purpose-

***(John 3:16-17 NKJV) "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. {17} "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.***

What did you come to see?

Have you received your Messiah?