



Luke 1:26-35 (King James Version)

²⁶*And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,*
²⁷*To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.*

Beloved Friends and Family at home and around the World:

How refreshing and complete are the Tender Mercies of God to make provision for our absolute redemption while we were yet sinners and enemies of God. In the fullness of time, God sent His Son to redeem us from the curse of the Law:

Galatians 4:3-7 – ³*Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world: ⁴But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, ⁵To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. ⁶And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. ⁷Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.*

Across the infinite stretches of Time and Space, the great Archangel Gabriel traversed at Light Speed to an humble little village in Galilee to a young virgin whose innocence and responsive spirit were found worthy of high honor in the eyes and plan of Almighty God. The Angel immediately put the young woman at ease with the assurance that only an agent of the Holy Spirit can do. "Fear not, Mary!" Those whose ears and hearts are attuned to the high calling of God will never have cause to fear regardless the awesome presence of an Archangel. A Son would be born of this Virgin whose name would be called Jesus – the Son of the Highest.

And so it happened according to the Word of God as transmitted by this mighty Angel.

Some thirty-odd years later, the Angel again came with a mission of great glory – to roll away the great stone that enclosed the Risen Body of this only Begotten Son.

Angels are messengers of God to bring Hope, Joy, and Comfort as well as warning to those who are privileged to receive them. So it was on the Plains of Mamre when Abraham entertained angels unawares. So it was to the desperate Hagar when her eyes were opened to behold a Spring of Water in the midst of the Dry and Desolate Place. And so it was for Joshua on the battlefield outside the gates of Jericho when the Captain of the Host of the Lord communed with him.

How often are angels sent to us and we hear or entertain them not? Perhaps more than we can know. But to the gentle Shepherds "watching their flocks by night" on the hills and slopes of Bethlehem, there was no possibility of not seeing. These men of humble birth and innocent disposition were startled to see the Brightness of the Sun in the Heavens at the midnight hour. It turned out to be the mighty Angel once again heralding the coming of Christ! And as they stood in speechless Awe of His Presence and His Message, a multitude of the heavenly host filled the Eastern Sky.

Luke 2:13-14 ¹³*And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, ¹⁴Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*

We need not be dismayed by the signs and omens of the modern time. Let us look up to the heavens and receive the glorious message of Almighty God:

¹¹*For unto you is born this day in the city of David a saviour which is Christ the Lord.*

When the sorrows of this life overwhelm us as the Billows of the Sea, look up for thy redemption draweth nigh! We are all on a great journey of mystery and adventure. Every gem of God that is opened to our eyes brings new awe and enlightenment. If our ears grow dull of hearing this message, our joy is lost and hope becomes forlorn. Listen to the Voice as it whispers our name. Listen to the Beautiful message of Love and assurance that beckons from beyond the veil. We are indeed privileged and blessed above all peoples now and forever.

My prayer is that each of us will draw ever nearer to that Mighty Heart of God, learning and digesting anew that glorious message of His Coming – not just Two Thousand years ago – but every day of our mortal lives. Merry Christmas and Joy to you!

In Christ,
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