



Series: "So This is Christmas"
Passage: Luke 1:26-38
Title: The Divine Announcement
Speaker: Pastor JC Cooper, 12/5/2021

Discussion Starter – What are some of the Old Testament passages you remember that point to the birth of Jesus?

- Read Genesis 3:14-15, Genesis 21:2, and Isaiah 7:14. What do these prophetic passages tell us about God's sovereign plan for His Son Jesus?
- Why do you think God remained silent, not speaking through prophets for 400 years prior to John the Baptist? How was the nation prepared to receive the announcement of God's promised Messiah during that time?
- Why do you think God chose to make His announcement to Mary instead of the ruling parties in Israel? What do we know about the 5 different groups in Israel (Pharisees, Sadducees, Herodians, Essenes, and Zealots) and why were they omitted from the divine announcement?
- When Mary questioned how it was possible for her to have a child without knowing a man, how did the angel Gabriel respond to her? How does this compare to the encounter the angel Gabriel has with Zechariah in verses 18-20? What are the key differences you see between them?
- How does the angel Gabriel encourage Mary and build her faith?
- Describe the mechanism God uses in (Genesis 3:14-15) the first mention in the bible of His plan to rescue humanity from the consequences of our sin.
- On what basis did Old Testament saints have a relationship with the God? How should we respond to the light He has given us?
- How was that promise (Genesis 3:15) fulfilled in Gabriel's announcement to Mary?

A Holy and Human Savior

- Why is it necessary for our Savior to be both human and Divine? How did Jesus completely fulfill this requirement?
- Read Hebrews 2:10-18. How does Jesus' incarnation qualify Him to be "a merciful and faithful High Priest"?
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The King Who Will Reign Forever

- How is the Davidic Covenant (2 Samuel 7:12-13) advanced by the announcement of the Virgin Birth?
- Read Isaiah 46:8-10. What important things does this passage bring to mind? Describe why remembering fulfilled prophecies should impact your walk with God?