

The First Noel – Mary did you know? (Overcoming Doubt)

Sermon – November 29, 2015

[Luke 1:26-49](#)

26 In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, 27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." 29 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. 30 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. 31 You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." 34 "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" 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. 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. 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! 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!" 46 And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord 47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, 48 for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, 49 for the Mighty one has done great things for me- holy is his name.

Mary overcame doubt by...

1. **RECOGNIZING SHE HAD A SAVIOR**

[Luke 1:47](#)

"my spirit rejoices in God my Savior"

Mary overcame doubt by...

2. **RECOGNIZING SHE WAS FAVORED BY GOD**

[Luke 1:28](#)

"Greetings, you who are highly favored!"

[Luke 1:30](#)

"Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God."

Mary overcame doubt by...

3. **A STRONG FAITH**

[Luke 1:38](#)

"I am the Lord's servant... May it be to me as you have said."

[Heb 11:1](#)

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

[Heb 11:6](#)

without faith it is impossible to please God.

Mary overcame doubt by...

4. **SEEING THE BIG PICTURE**

[Luke 1:31](#)

You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."