

**IN GOD'S PLAN**  
ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE  
Luke 1:5-25, 26-38 Matt 1:18-25  
Daniel Cassels  
November 26, 2023

**1. DON'T \_\_\_\_\_ ON GOD'S PLAN**

<sup>5</sup> In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest of Abijah's division named Zechariah. His wife was from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. <sup>6</sup> Both were righteous in God's sight, living without blame according to all the commands and requirements of the Lord. <sup>7</sup> But they had no children because Elizabeth could not conceive, and both of them were well along in years. <sup>8</sup> When his division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, <sup>9</sup> it happened that he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and burn incense. <sup>10</sup> At the hour of incense the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. <sup>11</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the altar of incense. <sup>12</sup> When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified and overcome with fear. <sup>13</sup> But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, because your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. <sup>14</sup> There will be joy and delight for you, and many will rejoice at his birth. <sup>15</sup> For he will be great in the sight of the Lord and will never drink wine or beer. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit while still in his mother's womb. <sup>16</sup> He will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. <sup>17</sup> And he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of fathers to their children, and the disobedient to the understanding of the righteous, to make ready for the Lord a prepared people." <sup>18</sup> "How can I know this?" Zechariah asked the angel. "For I am an old man, and my wife is well along in years." <sup>19</sup> The angel answered him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and tell you this good news. <sup>20</sup> Now listen. You will become silent and unable to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their proper time." <sup>21</sup> Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah, amazed that he stayed so long in the sanctuary. <sup>22</sup> When he did come out, he could not speak to them. Then they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He was making signs to them and remained speechless. <sup>23</sup> When the days of his ministry were completed, he went back home. <sup>24</sup> After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived and kept herself in seclusion for five months. She said, <sup>25</sup> "The Lord has done this for me. He has looked with favor in these days to take away my disgrace among the people." Luke 1:5–25

**2. GOD CAN DO THE \_\_\_\_\_**

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin engaged to a man named Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And the angel came to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup> But she was deeply troubled by this statement, wondering what kind of greeting this could be. <sup>30</sup> Then the angel told her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> Now listen: You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David. <sup>33</sup> He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and his kingdom will have no end." <sup>34</sup> Mary asked the angel, "How can this be, since I have not had sexual relations with a man?" <sup>35</sup> The angel replied to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> And consider your relative Elizabeth—even she has conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called childless. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup> "See, I am the Lord's servant," said Mary. "May it happen to me as you have said." Then the angel left her. Luke 1:26–38

**3. GOD CAN GET YOUR \_\_\_\_\_**

<sup>18</sup> The birth of Jesus Christ came about this way: After his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, it was discovered before they came together that she was pregnant from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> So her husband, Joseph, being a righteous man, and not wanting to disgrace her publicly, decided to divorce her secretly. <sup>20</sup> But after he had considered these things, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because what has been conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> **See, the virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they will name him Immanuel,** which is translated "God is with us." <sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did as the Lord's angel had commanded him. He married her <sup>25</sup> but did not have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. And he named him Jesus. Matthew 1:18–25

<sup>9</sup> If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> One believes with the heart, resulting in righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, resulting in salvation. Romans 10:9–10