Follow Jesus’ Plan Wed 12/20/23

Luke 1:26-38 NKJV

26Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,

 27to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name *was* Mary.

28And having come in, the angel said to her, “Rejoice, highly favored *one,* the Lord *is* with you; blessed *are* you among women!”

29But when she saw *him,* she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was.

30Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

31And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus.

32He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.

33And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.”

34Then Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I do not know a man?”

35And the angel answered and said to her, “*The* Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

36Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren.

37For with God nothing will be impossible.”

38Then Mary said, “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

# Matthew 1:18-25 NKJV

# 18Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit.

# 19Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man,* and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly.

# 20But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.

# 21And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”

# 22So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying:

# 23“Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.”

# 24Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife,

# 25and did not know her till she had brought forth herfirstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus.

# Matthew 2:13-14 NKJV

# 13Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, “Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.”

# 14When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt,

# 1 Kings 17:1-16 NKJV

# 17 And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, “*As* the Lord God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word.”

# 2Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying,

# 3“Get away from here and turn eastward, and hide by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan.

# 4And it will be *that* you shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there.”

# 5So he went and did according to the word of the Lord, for he went and stayed by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan.

# 6The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the brook.

# 7And it happened after a while that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.

# 8Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying,

# 9“Arise, go to Zarephath, which *belongs* to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you.”

# 10So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, indeed a widow *was* there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Please bring me a little water in a cup, that I may drink.”

# 11And as she was going to get *it,* he called to her and said, “Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.”

# 12So she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I *am* gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.”

# 13And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go *and* do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring *it* to me; and afterward make *some* for yourself and your son.

# 14For thus says the Lord God of Israel: ‘The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the Lord sends rain on the earth.’ ”

# 15So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for *many* days.

# 16The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the Lord which He spoke by Elijah.

# Genesis 22:1-18 NKJV

# 22 Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.”

# 2Then He said, “Take now your son, your only *son* Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.”

# 3So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.

# 4Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off.

# 5And Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you.”

# 6So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid *it* on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together.

# 7But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.”Then he said, “Look, the fire and the wood, but where *is* the lamb for a burnt offering?”

# 8And Abraham said, “My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering.” So the two of them went together. 9Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood.  10And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. 11But the Angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” So he said, “Here I am.”

# 12And He said, “Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only *son,* from Me.”

# 13Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind *him was* a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son.

# 14And Abraham called the name of the place, The-Lord-Will-Provide; as it is said *to* this day, “In the Mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

# 15Then the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven,

# 16and said: “By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only *son*—

# 17blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which *is* on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.

# 18In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.”