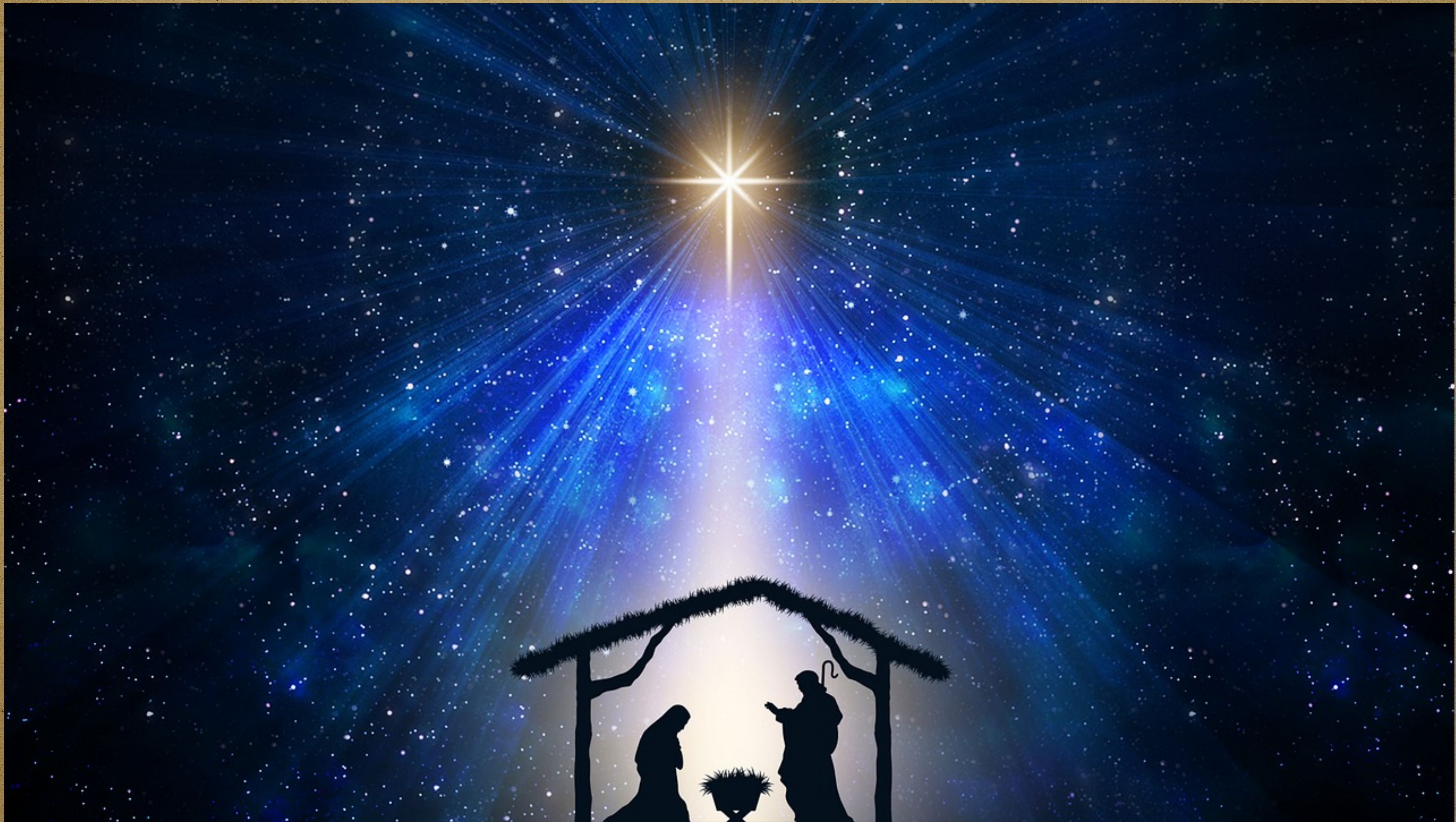


The Trinity



The Incarnation





Blessed

Angelic Prophecy of Jesus' Birth

During the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, the angel Gabriel was sent from God's presence to an unmarried girl named Mary, living in Nazareth, a village in Galilee.

She was engaged to a man named Joseph, a true descendant of King David. Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Rejoice, beloved young woman, for the Lord is with you and you are anointed with great favor."

Mary was deeply troubled over the words of the angel and bewildered over what this may mean for her. But the angel reassured her, saying, "Do not yield to your fear, Mary, for the Lord has found delight in you and has chosen to surprise you with a wonderful gift. You will become pregnant with a baby boy, and you are to name him Jesus. He will be supreme and will be known as the Son of the Highest. And the Lord God will enthrone him as King on the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign as King of Israel forever, and his reign will have no limit."

Mary said, "But how could this happen? I am still a virgin!"

Gabriel answered, "The Spirit of Holiness will fall upon you and almighty God will spread his shadow of power over you in a cloud of glory! This is why the child born to you will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God. What's more, your aged aunt, Elizabeth, has also become pregnant with a son. The 'barren one' is now in her sixth month. Not one promise from God is empty of power. Nothing is impossible with God!"

Then Mary responded, saying, "Yes! I will be a mother for the Lord! As his servant, I accept whatever he has for me. May everything you have told me come to pass."

And the angel left her.

An Angel Comes to Joseph

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place.

His mother, Mary, had promised Joseph to be his wife, but while she was still a virgin she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. Her fiancé, Joseph, was a righteous man full of integrity and he didn't want to disgrace her, but when he learned of her pregnancy he secretly planned to break the engagement. While he was still debating with himself about what to do, he fell asleep and had a supernatural dream. An angel from the Lord appeared to him and said, "Joseph, descendant of David, don't hesitate to take Mary into your home as your wife, because the power of the Holy Spirit has conceived a child in her womb. She will give birth to a son and you are to name him 'Savior,' for he is destined to give his life to save his people from their sins."

This happened to fulfill what the Lord had spoken through his prophet:

Listen! A virgin will be pregnant, she will give birth to a Son, and he will be known as "Immanuel," which means in Hebrew, "God became one of us."

When Joseph woke from his dream, he did all that the angel of the Lord instructed him to do. He took Mary to be his wife, but they refrained from having sex until she gave birth to her firstborn son, whom they named "Jesus."

Elizabeth's Prophecy to Mary

Afterward, Mary arose and hurried off to the hill country of Judea, to the village where Zechariah and Elizabeth lived. Arriving at their home, Mary entered the house and greeted Elizabeth. At the moment her aunt heard Mary's voice, the baby within Elizabeth's womb jumped and kicked. And suddenly, Elizabeth was filled to overflowing with the Holy Spirit! With a loud voice she prophesied with power:

“Mary! You are a woman given the highest favor and privilege above all others, for your child is destined to bring God great delight.

How did I deserve such a remarkable honor to have the mother of my Lord come and visit me? The moment you came in the door and greeted me, my baby danced inside me with joy! Great favor rests upon you, for you have believed every word spoken to you from the Lord.”

Mary's Prophetic Song

And Mary sang this song:

“My soul is ecstatic, overflowing with praises to God! My spirit bursts with joy over my life-giving God! For he set his tender gaze upon me, his lowly servant girl. And from here on, everyone will know that I have been favored and blessed. The Mighty One has worked a mighty miracle for me; holy is his name. Mercy kisses all who fear him, from one generation to the next. Mighty power flows from him to scatter all those who walk in pride. Powerful princes he tears from their thrones and he lifts up the lowly to take their place. Those who hunger for him will always be filled but the smug and self-satisfied he will send away empty. Because he can never forget to show mercy, he has helped his chosen servant, Israel, keeping his promises to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

Before going home, Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months.

Blessed

“Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb!...

And blessed is she who believed that there would be
a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

Lk1:42 & 45



“Nothing is impossible
with God.”

Lk 1:37

“No “rhema” word from God lacks the
power to perform it.”

— Bill Johnson —

When God speaks he always
releases the power and
the resources to accomplish it.

Isa 55:11, Phil. 1:6



Mary is the first living resting place of God in the earth, the place where the Glory abides for nine months. God shared his glory with a person.



She was blessed to break the Curse

Eve birthed the curse

by receiving the word & identity of the enemy and surrendered to the shame,

Mary birthed the blessing

by receiving the word & identity of Yahweh and was empowered to break the curse and cast the shame off humanity.

Mary became the gateway for the new creation. This time it was not **ex nihilo** out of nothing, but **ex utero** out of the womb.



She was blessed
to be a life giver.

“This is the path of
blessing: letting the
active word come
through you to give
life to others.”

Believed

Then Mary said,
“Behold the maidservant of the Lord!

Let it be to me according to your word.”
And the angel departed from her. — Luke 1:38

Amen! Say, "Yes!"

"Let it be to me according to your Word."

Saying yes is always the beginning of every act of Creation. Those who create, hear the word of God and let it become flesh through them...Every act of kingdom creation is an act of incarnation." Christ John Otto

"My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it..."

...Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breasts that nursed you!" But He said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the Word of God and keep it."

Lk 8:19-21 & 11:27-29

Birthed

Every creative act is an act of giving birth.

Sometimes you feel like you are barren, with no life in you.

How does God create out of those barren places?

God gives life to dry places by speaking a word.

The Joseph and Mary task.





Joseph

says yes to the Word



Mary treasured up all these things
and pondered them in her heart.

“My soul proclaims
the greatness of the Lord
and my spirit exalts
in God my Savior,
for He has looked with
mercy on my lowliness.

And my name
will be forever exalted.

For the mighty God has
done great things for me
and His mercy will reach
from age to age

And holy, holy,
holy is His name.”

“He has mercy
in every generation.
He has revealed His power and
His glory.

He has cast down the mighty in
their arrogance, and has lifted
up the meek and the lowly.

He has come to help
His servant Israel
He remembered
His promise to our fathers

And holy, holy,
holy is His name
Holy, holy, holy is His name”