



# THREE THINGS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

## *Three Things that Changed the World*

*Luke 1:26-38 Acts 2:1-4*

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*Objective Sentence:* Everyone can change their world by taking three steps that Mary took in changing the world.

**Read—Luke 1:26-37 NKJV** Now in the sixth month [of Elizabeth’s pregnancy] the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin [engaged] to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name *was* Mary. <sup>28</sup> And having come in, the angel said to her, “Rejoice, highly favored *one*, the Lord *is* with you; blessed *are* you among women!” <sup>29</sup> But when she saw *him*, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. <sup>30</sup> Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. <sup>32</sup> He 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. <sup>33</sup> And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end. <sup>34</sup> Then Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I do not know a man? <sup>35</sup> And 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. <sup>36</sup> Now 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. <sup>37</sup> For with God nothing will be impossible.” <sup>38</sup> Then Mary responded, “I am the Lord’s servant [maidservant]! Let it [happen] to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

**Pastor Dan:** From the moment the angel appeared to Mary announcing the fact that she had been chosen to bring the Savoir into the world until the day she died [either in Jerusalem or in Ephesus], ***she was engaged in the practice of surrendering her life to Jesus.*** There were times when she failed miserably, but the power of the Holy Spirit gave her the will and power to do what pleased Him.

- #1. **Three Things that Changed the World** (*Malala You/saf/za a young lady girl that defied the Taliban in Afghanistan, demanding that girls be allowed to receive an education. She was shot in the head in 2012 but survived: Let us remember: one book, one pen, one child, and one teacher, can change the world.*).
- A. **John MacArthur: Everything the Bible teaches about Christ hinges on the truth that we celebrate at Christmas—that Jesus is God in human flesh [John 1:1-3; 1:14]. The virgin birth is as crucial as the resurrection in substantiating His deity. It is not an optional truth. Anyone who rejects Christ’s deity rejects Christ absolutely... and the accuracy and authority of the Scriptures.... No issue is more important than the virgin birth to our understanding of who Jesus is. If we deny that Jesus is God, we have denied the very essence of Christianity.**
1. **Surrender—Mary Surrendered to God’s Word** (*Luke 1:38 Then Mary responded, “I am the Lord’s servant [maidservant]! Let it [happen] to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.*)
- a. **Pastor Dan:** Mary took the first step in fulfilling God’s will for her life was when Gabriel revealed to her the purpose for which she had been chosen and created.” She believed God and surrendered her life to the control of His Word.
- b. **Isaiah 55:6-11** Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near. <sup>7</sup> Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup> “For My thoughts *are* not your thoughts, nor *are* your ways My ways,” says the LORD. <sup>9</sup> “For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts. <sup>10</sup> “For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater. <sup>11</sup> So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper *in the thing* for which I sent it.
- c. **Joshua 1:8-9; Psalms 119:9, 11, 89, 130, 164-165; Matthew 4:4; Hebrews 4:12**
- d. **Colossians 3:14-17** Above everything else, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup> And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful. **Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom**, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
2. **Surrender—Mary surrendered to God’s Plan** (*Mark 3:20-21 AMP Jesus came to a house [in Capernaum], and a crowd formed ..., so [many people] that Jesus and His disciples could not even eat a meal [together]. <sup>21</sup> When His own family heard this they went to take custody of Him; for they were saying, “He is out of His mind.” Mark 3:31-35 AMP Then His mother and His brothers arrived, and standing outside they sent word to Him and called for Him. <sup>32</sup> A crowd was sitting around Him, and they said to Him, “Look! Your mother and Your brothers are outside asking for You.” <sup>33</sup> He replied, “Who are My mother and My brothers?” <sup>34</sup> Looking at those who were sitting in a circle around Him, He said, “Here are My mother and My brothers! <sup>35</sup> For whoever does the will of God [by believing in Me, and following Me], he is My brother and sister and mother.*)

- a. **God has a plan for you.** **Psalms 139:13-16 NLT** You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. <sup>14</sup> Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. <sup>15</sup> You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. <sup>16</sup> You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.
- b. *Pastor Dan:* Mary and Jesus' family did not understand what God called Jesus to do and they began to oppose God's plan for Him (**John 3:16-18**).
- c. *Pastor Dan:* Stop meddling in God's will and surrender your opinions and ideas about how you think Jesus should conduct His work of transforming your life into His purpose for you.
- d. **John 19:25-26 There stood by the cross of Jesus His mother ....** <sup>26</sup> When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" It was at this moment Mary surrendered to God's plan of her becoming a follower of Jesus. We are good at telling God what He needs to do as was Mary, but not so good at listening to Him tell us what we need to do. [**Matthew 16:22-23** Peter ... began to rebuke Jesus .... ]
- e. **Proverbs 4:7-9** Wisdom is the principle thing therefore get wisdom ... exalt ... embrace ....
- f. **Romans 8:29** For whom He foreknew, He also predestined **to be conformed to the image of His Son**, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.
- g. **Philippians 3:10-14 NKJV** That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death [self denial-suffering-crucifixion], so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already been made perfect; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

3. **Surrender—Mary surrendered to the power of the Holy Spirit** (**Acts 1:4-5, 8, 12-14 NKJV** *And being assembled together with the disciples [after Jesus rose from the dead], He commanded [His disciples] not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; <sup>5</sup> for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now. <sup>8</sup> You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you and you will be witnesses of Me in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the uttermost parts of the earth. <sup>13</sup> Then [the disciples] returned to Jerusalem from the mount of Olives, which is near Jerusalem .... <sup>13</sup> And ... they went up into the upper room .... <sup>14</sup> The disciples all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.... <sup>15</sup> altogether the number of names was about 120.*
- a. *Margaret Mead:* Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.
  - b. **Acts 2:1-4 NKJV** When the Day of Pentecost had fully come ... [**the 12 disciples, Mary, Jesus' brothers, and others—about 120 total**] were all with one accord in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting ... <sup>4</sup> And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
  - c. *Pastor Dan:* On that day, the Day of Pentecost [or Feast of Harvest] those followers of Jesus received God's power in their lives and lit a spark in the world that has taken the Gospel to the ends of the earth. The 120 followers of Jesus [Mary His mother and his brothers were among them] received the Gift of Tongues—a supernatural language of prayer allowing one to communicate with God on His level of understanding in Spirit and truth.

- d. *Pastor Dan:* Mary once again surrendered her life to God and was Baptized in the Holy Spirit, spoke in tongues and honored the ministry of the Holy Spirit in her life until the day she died. The Gift of Tongues was the initial physical evidence of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the followers of Jesus.
- e. *Pastor Dan:* *Mary surrendered her life to Jesus by no longer seeking Him as her son but as her Lord and God, the one who imparts the Holy Spirit to those who believe.*
- f. **Luke 3:16** John answered, saying to all, “I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. **Romans 8:26-27** The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don’t know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings [and utterances] that cannot be expressed in words. <sup>27</sup> And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God’s own will. **Jude 20** But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit.

**Closing and Invitation:** **Isaiah 7:14** The Lord Himself shall give you a sign: Behold, **the virgin** shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel [God with us]. **Luke 1:26-27** The angel Gabriel ... was sent to a virgin **Isaiah 9:6** For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, **Mighty God, Everlasting Father**, Prince of Peace **Micah 5:2** But you Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel whose going forth are from of old, from everlasting.