

FAVORED ONE

In **Luke 1:26-38**, an angel of Lord was sent to Nazareth of Galilee to an engaged virgin named, Mary of the lineage of David through Nathan (Luke 3:25, 31) in the 6th month of Elizabeth's pregnancy (Luke 1:24, 26).

Our Christmas lesson comes from the angel of the Lord's salutation from God to Mary recorded in Luke 1:26-30.

**Four aspects of the angel of Lord's special salutation:
"Greeting, favored one! The Lord is with you." (Lk.1:28)**

1. We will begin by examining the greater context of our lesson text (Luke 1:26-38) by the following five points - Mary found favor with the Lord.

- Lk.1:26 – 29 **Angel's Salutation to Mary:**
 - Favored One.

- Lk.1:30 – 33 **Angel's message to Mary (part one):**
 - Mother part Lk.1:31
 - Child part Lk.1:32-33.

- Lk.1:34 **Angel interrupted by Mary's question:**
 - Virgin mentioned 3 times: Lk.1:27, 27, 34).

- Lk.1:35 – 37 **Angel's message to Mary (part two):**
 - Holy Spirit and Most High and Son of God.

- Lk.1:38 **Angel gets Mary's response to God's call to ministry:**
 - "May it be done to me according to Your word."

2. This salutation reveals Mary's spiritually mature relationship with God.

God is dealing with Mary as a spiritual adult rather than a spiritual baby or child (1 Pet.2:2; 1 Cor.13:11).

(Eph.4:13) "**Until we all attain (to) the unity** of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, **(to) a mature man, (to) the measure of the stature which belongs (to) the fullness of Christ.**" (Rom.8:29; (Rom.12:2)

Three forms of grace:

- "Greeting" (**chairo**/ p.a.impv.2ps),
- "favored one" (**charitoo**/ perf.p.ptc. vsf) [**to be endowed with God's grace**]! The Lord is with you" (Lk.1:28).
- "Do not be afraid Mary: for you have found favor (heurisko/ a.a.ind.2ps/ **charin**/ asf) with God." (Lk.1:30)

All three forms emphasize **God bestowing His grace (charis)**, His favor upon Mary's circumstances of life in Plan of God. These three forms emphasize **the God side of the Grace promised**.

3. It was God who gave Mary the title, Favored One, in Luke 1:28-30.

God was describing His spiritual relationship with Mary as a Father (pater) to a spiritual adult (teleios) child.

God was not speaking from Mary's **positional sanctification** as a child of God (Gal.3:26-29), but rather from her spiritual maturity, **experiential sanctification** (Eph.4:13; Col.1:28-29; 1 Cor.13:11) [ACT YOUR AGE].

God has two parenting title roles:

- **Abba**, (dad) as a parent to a spiritual baby or immature child
- **Father** to a spiritual adult (youthful and old adults) (Rom.8:15-17; 1 John 2:12-14).

Mary wasn't chosen only because she was a virgin, but because she chose daily to live her single life as unto the Lord as a virgin (1 Cor.6:18-7:3, 32-35).

4. Mary was a Favored One because she had reached and maintained a consistent walk, applying the Faith Cycle as a spiritually mature believer.

(2 Tim.3:16-17) "All Scripture is inspired by God (God breathed/ inhale and exhale) and **profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness**; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped **for every good work** (Divine Production)."

She had achieved through her spiritual growth maturity a status of Super Grace (S/G) maturity.

(2 Thess.1:3) "We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brethren, as is only fitting, **because your faith is greatly enlarged** (huperauxano) [Super Grace], and the love of each one of you towards one another grows ever greater."

Because of her Super Grace status, Mary was picked to have a spiritual impact ministry in biblical history, in the Plan of God.

This can be for every Super Grace church age believer who chooses to live worthy of his calling.

(Eph.4:1) "Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called."