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## Chart 4: The Three Announcements Relating to the Birth of Jesus

Harold Willmington

*Liberty University*, [hwillmington@liberty.edu](mailto:hwillmington@liberty.edu)

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## THE THREE ANNOUNCEMENTS

### TO ZACHARIAS, CONCERNING THE BIRTH OF JOHN

His Spouse	His Service	His Sorrow
<i>There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah. His wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth. (Lk. 1:5)</i>	<i><sup>6</sup>And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. <sup>8</sup>So it was, that while he was serving as priest before God in the order of his division, <sup>9</sup>according to the custom of the priesthood, his lot fell to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord. (Lk. 1:6, 8, 9)</i>	<i><sup>7</sup>But they had no child, because Elisabeth was barren, and they were both well advanced in years. (Lk. 1:7)</i>
His Surprise		
<b>1) The Reason Involved</b> <i><sup>11</sup>Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. (Lk. 1:11)</i>	<b>2) The Revelation Involved</b> <i><sup>12</sup>And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. <sup>13</sup>But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elisabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. <sup>15</sup>"For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb". <sup>17</sup>"He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord. (Lk. 1:12, 13, 15, 17)</i>	
<b>3) The Rebuke Involved</b> <i><sup>18</sup>And Zacharias said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years." <sup>19</sup>And the angel answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings. <sup>20</sup>"But behold, you will be mute and not able to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time. (Lk. 1:18-20)</i>	<b>4) The Rejoicing Involved</b> <i><sup>24</sup>Now after those days his wife Elisabeth conceived; and she hid herself five months, saying, <sup>25</sup>"Thus the Lord has dealt with me, in the days when He looked on me, to take away my reproach among people. (Lk. 1:24-25)</i>	

### TO MARY, CONCERNING THE BIRTH OF JESUS

The Salutation To Mary (Lk.1:26-37)	The Submission By Mary
<p><b>The Message:</b> The angel Gabriel tells her she will give birth to the Messiah</p> <p><b>The Mystery:</b> Mary, a virgin asks how this would occur</p> <p><b>The Method:</b> She is told the Holy Spirit would over-shadow her</p> <p><b>The Miracle:</b> Mary is told Elisabeth would soon bear a son</p>	<i>Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her. (Lk. 1:38)</i>

### TO JOSEPH, CONCERNING THE PURITY OF MARY

Joseph's Distress	Joseph's Decision	Joseph's Dream
He is Heartbroken: He is reassured by the angel that Mary has not been unfaithful (Mt. 1:18).	Not willing to publicly disgrace her, he plans to break their engagement secretly (Mt. 1:19)	The Angel of the Lord assures him of Mary's purity, saying her unborn son would be the Jewish Messiah! (Mt. 1:20-25)