The Impossible Is Possible With God

Luke records the announcement of the birth of Jesus to Mary in Luke 1:26-38. The angel Gabriel is sent by God to inform her that she had been chosen to bear the Son of God. The Holy Spirit of God will come upon her and the son she gives birth to shall be called Jesus. One would think that her reaction would be nothing less than joyous. However, initially she appears to express doubt.

Consider first, that by her own admission, she had never physically been with a man. She was indeed a virgin. And possibly (emphasis on possibly, just as a thought to consider), she is not in the age range one would think could or would be giving birth. I suggest that possibility because Gabriel also informs her regarding her cousin Elizabeth, who is "in her old age" (Luke 1:36), and who "was called barren," is also going to give birth and is in the sixth month of her term. Why does Gabriel mention this to Mary? Likely because of her doubt and to impress upon her that with God the impossible is completely possible. Now bring back into view the fact that she had NEVER physically been with a man. Even 2,000 years ago, people understood the process of procreation. What she obviously saw as impossible to occur, the God of Heaven could make happen.

The impossible scenario Mary was faced with then helps us appreciate the power of God and that since He never changes, His power and ability is still equally present today. Malachi says of God, "For I am the Lord, I do not change" (Malachi 3:6). Malachi's factual statement helps us understand that as we walk submissively faithful before God, His power and mighty abilities are ever present to support us. As Mary concludes that God will make things happen with her, we too need to remember God's ability over our own. Paul writes, "I can do all things through

Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13). God can get us through the most difficult of situations, just as He did Mary. Paul declares, "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or thing, according to the power that works in us" (Ephesians 3:20).

There is no situation too colossal for God and us to handle together. John notes, "You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world" (1 John 4:4). Additionally, we must always remember that as long as we walk faithfully with God, He is with us - "For He Himself has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we may boldly say: The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?" (Hebrews 13:5-6)

Mary was faced with an impossible situation. Socially, the circumstances alone of the situation she finds herself facing would be daunting. How could she possibly explain any of it so that Joseph or anyone possibly believe she had not done something inappropriate? Submitting to God, believing in His power and abilities, and letting Him take control solved all her problems and eased all of her fears. Let us each purpose to let God work through us and with us each day.