

**In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."
But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.**

The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a Son, and you will name Him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.” **Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?”**

The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the Child to be born will be holy; He will be called Son of God.

And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

Unconditional Surrender

**“Here am I, the servant of the Lord;
let it be with me according to your word.”**

- 1. Are you willing to obey anything the Scripture clearly says to do, whether you like it or not?**
- 2. Are you willing to trust God in anything He sends into your life, whether you understand it or not?**

- **Mary was between 13-16 years old.**
- **She was betrothed/engaged to Joseph**
- **Joseph would've likely been in his 20's**



**Mary knew she would have to surrender
the rest of her childhood and all her adulthood.**

**Mary knew she would have to surrender
her reputation.**

**Mary knew she would have to surrender
her safety.**

Gabriel: “Your childhood is over. Your future is forfeited. Your reputation is finished. Your marriage may be through. You may not live past 14. But God has called you.”

Mary: “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.”

Surrender is as counter-cultural as anything in the Modern West where self-autonomy, personal freedom, and individual rights are unquestioned values.

1. Surrender to Jesus is seen as a betrayal of your AUTHENTIC self.

“You are who you are! Follow your heart. Do whatever you feel. Live free. Be you. Don’t conform, Resist! Society’s standards! Your mom and dad! Your church! Political authority.

You do you.”

1. Surrender to Jesus is seen as a betrayal of your AUTHENTIC self.

“I’ve got good news! Jesus says you can be saved into His kingdom where He exercises unquestioned universal authority over everything about you – your money, relationships, career, morality, sexuality, politics, rights, reputation, comfort, and dreams. Give it all to Him right now and forevermore.

He rules. Take up your cross and die.”

2. Surrender to Jesus is seen as INTOLERANT to other religious perspectives and worldviews.

3. Surrender to Jesus has been cheapened by the HYPOCRISY of the Christian establishment

- Sex Scandals**
- Abusive Leaders**
- Power Plays**
- Racism**
- Misogyny**
- Prosperity Theology**
- Financial Exploitation**
- Cover Ups**
- Politicization of Jesus**
- Nationalism over Kingdom**
- Disunity and Infighting.**

**4. Surrender has been made out to be OPTIONAL
by preachers, teachers, and theologians.**

- **“Health! Wealth! Prosperity!”**
- **“The Bible doesn’t actually mean that.”**
- **“The God I serve would never say that!”**

**5. Surrender is hard with so much UNCERTAINTY
and so many unanswered questions.**

1. You will surrender if you know the God Mary knew.

She knew His story in the Hebrew Scriptures.

She knew His will always prevailed.

She knew He worked through unlikely characters and circumstances.

She knew that God protected women.

She knew His unquestioned authority.

- 1. You will surrender if you know the God Mary knew.**
- 2. You will surrender if you realize who Jesus actually is.**

We look at this Son and see the God who cannot be seen. We look at this Son and see God's original purpose in everything created.

For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible, rank after rank after rank of angels—everything got started in Him and finds its purpose in Him. He was there before any of it came into existence and holds it all together right up to this moment. And when it comes to the church, He organizes and holds it together, like a head does a body.

Colossians 1:15-20

He was supreme in the beginning and—leading the resurrection parade—He is supreme in the end. From beginning to end He's there, towering far above everything, everyone. So spacious is He, so roomy, that everything of God finds its proper place in Him without crowding. Not only that, but all the broken and dislocated pieces of the universe—people and things, animals and atoms—get properly fixed and fit together in vibrant harmonies, all because of His death, His blood that poured down from the cross.

Colossians 1:15-20

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- 2. You will surrender if you realize who Jesus actually is.**
- 3. You will surrender if you know what God will give back to you.**

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- 2. You will surrender if you realize who Jesus actually is.**
- 3. You will surrender if you know what God will give back to you.**
- 4. You will surrender when you realize how Jesus changes you.**
- 5. You will surrender when you see what God will do through you.**

God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, His Spirit deeply and gently within us. Glory to God in the church! Glory to God in the Messiah, in Jesus! Glory down all the generations! Glory through all millennia! Oh, yes!

Ephesians 3:20-21

- 1. You will surrender if you know the God Mary knew.**
- 2. You will surrender if you realize who Jesus actually is.**
- 3. You will surrender if you know what God will give back to you.**
- 4. You will surrender when you realize how Jesus changes you.**
- 5. You will surrender when you see what God will do through you.**
- 6. You will surrender when you understand what Jesus did for you.**

Unconditional Surrender

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let it be with me according to your word.”**