

Power of God:
Two Expectant Mothers

Luke 1

I. The Power Of God

Zacharias

- Characteristics

Priest, 5

Pure, 6

Prays, 13

Zacharias

- Characteristics
- Condition (7)
- Conversation
 - Startled, 11-12
 - Son, 13
 - Joy, 14
 - Great, 15
 - Dedicated, 15
 - Successful, 16
 - Forerunner, 17
 - Prophet, 17

Zacharias

- Characteristics
- Condition (7)
- Conversation
- Crisis (18)
- Correction (19-25) – I am Gabriel
 - *Stand before God, 19
 - *Sent from God, 19
 - *Sign by God, 20
 - *Sentence of God, 20
 - *Son for God, 36-37

Mary

- Characteristic: virgin, 26-27 (34)
- Condition: highly favored (28, 30)
- Conversation: 31-33
 - Son of Highest, 35, 76
 - Throne, 2 Sm.7
 - Forever, Ps.110:4

Mary

- Characteristic: virgin, 26-27 (34)
- Condition: highly favored (28, 30)
- Conversation: 31-33
- Curiosity: 34-35
- Confirmation:
 - Elizabeth, 36
 - God's power, 37
 - Prophecy, 38

Mary

- Characteristic: virgin, 26-27 (34)
- Condition: highly favored (28, 30)
- Conversation: 31-33
- Curiosity: 34-35
- Confirmation
- Compliance, 38

Comparisons

Zacharias

Old

Married

Barren (Eliz.)

Doubt

Mary

Young

Unmarried

Virgin

Faith

Power of God

Angel . . . Prophecy . . .

Aged couple's childbirth . . .

Virgin birth

Eternal Kingdom

Four ways God made man

1. From dust (Adam).
2. From man (Eve).
3. From woman by man (rest of us).
4. From woman without man (Jesus).

I. The Power Of God

II. Wrong Reaction
To God's Power

Zacharias

- Believed in God, but stumbled at a miracle (18)
- Saw angel, but did not believe his promise (13, 18)
- Prayed (13) but did not believe answer.
Ep.3:20

I. The Power Of God

II. Wrong Reaction To God's Power

III. Right Reaction
To God's Power

Mary

- No doubt about it (34, 38)
- Maiden of Nazareth has more faith than priest in holy place
- Maiden believes far more startling message than Zacharias

No sign (36-37)

- Mary does not ask for a sign
- Mary receives more gracious sign than Zacharias

Elizabeth shows (again) that an impossible birth is possible

Mary, the believer (38)

- Mary believes incredible message
- Mary accepts consequence of promise
- Mary submits to God

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Maidservant (maid-slave)

‘Let it be to me according to Your word’

1. Ready to do His will (22:42)
2. Relationship (Mt.1:19)
3. Risk life (Dt.22:23-24)
4. Reputation (Ph.2:7)

Mary believed, 45

- **Who?** Normal girl; nobody to world
- **When?** Before receiving the promise
- **What?** Something that never happened
- **How?** Unconditional surrender

How do we react to God's power?

- Gn.15:5
- Jude 24 (21)

'How tremendous is the power available to us who believe in God'

- Num.14:9
- Ph.4:13