

Christmas Is Coming

Jesus Fulfilled What He Said

1. The Christmas story is a reminder that God is a promise-keeping, promise-giving God that **fulfills** His promises.
2. Christ was the **fulfillment** of the promise.

Did you know God gives promises today? He speaks, He delivers promises today and fulfills them.

Folks, don't **quit** – there is hope and our confidence is in Him.

Luke 1:26-33

²⁶ Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!"

²⁹ But when she saw *him*, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. ³⁰ Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. ³³ And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

When we read the Christmas story, we are reading the fulfillment of a long series of **promised** events.

John 3:16

¹⁶For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

The Father's Son, Jesus Christ, is the **fulfillment**.

Let me explain to you regarding a promise:

3. A **fulfilled promise** is not the **end**, it reminds you that God is present, and is aware what's taking place in your life.

Matter of fact: Jesus Christ, who is God, injected Himself in humanity in the progression of all eternity of His master plan → What this says to you: If that promise is yet unfulfilled – **IT'S COMING**.

4. If you have been given a promise and it's been fulfilled, there are **steps** that have to be taken following that fulfilled promise.

Here is the picture: The fulfilled promise marks an event in the timeline of our life:



Example: When Jesus was born and crucified, you still must react, respond to the promise fulfilled → you received Christ as Lord – new life to respond to.

5. A promise given and fulfilled isn't an end, it's a **mark** in the progressive line or master plan of Christ's work in our life.
 - The Christmas story was not **the end**.

2 Corinthians 1:20

²⁰ For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.

6. God is alive and at work. He will **inject** Himself into your situation and **fulfill** what He has said.

Let me give you a prophetic word: God says if you won't **compromise**, He will absolutely do what you have in your heart.

- Little wisdom: Sometimes you can't share the promise with **others**.

Now, there are three things I am going to show you that will mobilize or activate this promise you have:

- A. You must **accept** the promise.
- B. You must **believe** the promise.
- C. You must **wait** for the promise.

Let's explain the three:

- A. **Accept** the promise

Luke 1:38 – Mary makes this statement:

³⁸ Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

7. Accepting is appropriating God's promise for me; allowing God to do what He said, **positioning** myself to receive it.

Here is the main reason why people don't accept:

- They looked at their **worthiness**.
- Their own **performance**.
- Their own **failure**.
- Their own **unworthiness**.
- They rely on their **logic**: trying to figure out how God can do it.

So you conclude, no way the promise can happen.

- * How about God just does something that's beyond what your mind can comprehend?

Mary accepted

Luke 1:38

³⁸ Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

The second thing:

B. To **believe**

Joseph is the example of believing, and He becomes aware of what was promised.

Matthew 1:19-21

¹⁹ Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. ²⁰ But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹ And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

Folks: even how crazy life can be, you **must** believe!

Matthew 1:20-25

²⁰ But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹ And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." ²² So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: ²³ "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us." ²⁴ Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, ²⁵ and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus.

Joseph still had to make a **choice** to believe.

How do you act on what you believe?

Answer: Doubt and unbelief is the **enemy**.

Romans 4:20-24

²⁰ He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, ²¹ and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. ²² And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness." ²³ Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, ²⁴ but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead,

The third:

C. **Waiting** on the promise

The word, waiting means: anxious **anticipation**

Luke 2:25-26

²⁵ And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶ And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

Luke 2:27-32

²⁷ So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law, ²⁸ he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said: ²⁹ "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; ³⁰ For my eyes have seen Your salvation ³¹ Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, ³² A light to *bring* revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel."

8. Sometimes in the working of the fulfillment of God's promise, it takes **time** and an **anticipation** of God's work.

Simeon: He had been waiting for the promised **Messiah**.

Verse 27 – it says He was moved by the Spirit to go to the temple → it wasn't his **day** to be there.

- If I'm impatient, griping, and complaining to all around me – how can I **hear** the Spirit of God?

God is in **process** to fulfill your promise – wait and anticipate the nudging of the Holy Spirit.

Watch this lifestyle of Anna:

Luke 2:36-37

³⁶ Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; ³⁷ and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day.

But she shared **hope** – want hope – look at us at Valley

We accept, believe, and wait because Jesus was **born**.

Everything God has promised will be **birthed** in your life.