INTRODUCTION: When was the last time you heard a sermon on the subject of Mary, the mother of Jesus? In Protestant churches, we often ignore talking about this teenaged girl who is an extraordinary example of faith.

1 Timothy 2:5   “For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,”

Matthew 13:55-56   “Is not this the carpenter’s son? Is not His mother called Mary, and His brothers, James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? 56 And His sisters, are they not all with us? Where then did this man get all these things?”

Mark 6:3a   “Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James, and Joses, and Judas, and Simon? Are not His sisters here with us?”

I. Gabriel’s Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38)

A. The Setting (Luke 1:26-27)

Luke 1:26   “Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee, called Nazareth,”

Luke 1:27   “to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary.”

Three Steps of Marriage in the Middle East

1. **Selection**

2. **Betrothal**

3. **Marriage**
B. Gabriel’s Announcement (Luke 1:28-33)

Gabriel’s Pre-birth Description of Jesus (Luke 1:32-33)

1. “He will be great.” (Luke 1:32)
2. “He will be the Son of the Most High.” (Luke 1:32)
3. “He will have the throne of David.” (Luke 1:32)
4. “He will rule over the house of Jacob forever.” (Luke 1:33)
5. “His kingdom will have no end.” (Luke 1:33)

Luke 1:32-33 “32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; 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 His kingdom will have no end.”

C. Mary’s Response (Luke 1:34-48)

Luke 1:34 “And Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I am a virgin?’”

Luke 1:35 “And the angel answered and said to her, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy offspring shall be called the Son of God.’”

Four Reasons for the Virgin Birth

1. It protects Christ’s deity.
2. It preserves Christ’s humanity.
3. It solves the problem of Jeconiah’s curse.

Jeremiah 22:24 “‘As I live,’ declares the LORD, ‘even though Coniah [Jeconiah] the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah were a signet ring on My right hand, yet I would pull you off,’”

Jeremiah 22:30 “Thus says the LORD, ‘Write this man down childless, a man who will not prosper in his days; for no man of his descendants will prosper sitting on the throne of David or ruling again in Judah.’”
4. It fulfills prophecy.

Isaiah 7:14 “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel.”

Luke 1:36 “And behold, even your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age; and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month.”

Luke 1:38 “And Mary said, ‘Behold, the bondslave of the Lord; be it done to me according to your word.’ And the angel departed from her.”

II. Joseph’s Hesitation (Matthew 1:18-25)

Matthew 1:19 “And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man, and not wanting to disgrace her, desired to put her away secretly.”

Matthew 1:20-25 “20 But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for that which has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 And she will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins.’ 22 Now all this took place that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled, saying, 23 ‘BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD, AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL,’ which translated means, ‘GOD WITH US.’ 24 And Joseph arose from his sleep, and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took her as his wife, 25 and kept her a virgin until she gave birth to a Son; and he called His name Jesus.”

III. Elizabeth’s and Mary’s Adoration (Luke 1:39-56)

A. Elizabeth’s Praise for Mary (Luke 1:39-45)

Luke 1:39-41 “39 Now at this time Mary arose and went with haste to the hill country, to a city of Judah, 40 and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. 41 And it came about that when Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.”
Luke 1:42-43  “42 And she cried out with a loud voice and said, ‘Blessed among women are you, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! 43 And how has it happened to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?’"

Luke 1:45  “And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord.”

B. Mary’s Praise for God  (Luke 1:46-56)

Luke 1:46-49  “46 And Mary said:  ‘My soul exalts the Lord, 47 and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. 48 For He has had regard for the humble state of His bondslave; for behold, from this time on all generations will count me blessed. 49 For the Mighty One has done great things for me; and holy is His name.’"

IV. Timeless Truths In Mary’s Life

A. God Uses Those Who Are Pure

2 Timothy 2:20-21  “20 Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor. 21 Therefore, if a man cleanses himself from these things, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.”

B. God Uses Those Who Believe His Word

C. God Uses Those Who Are Willing to Sacrifice That Which Is Most Important to Them

Conclusion