

MAIR A CHENHEDLU IESU.

Emyn: 471 'Suai'r gwynt.'

Darlleniad: Luc 1:26-38.

Neges: Beth a wyddom am Mair?

A. YR UN BREINTIEDIG.

'Anfonwyd yr angel Gabriel gan Dduw i dref yng Ngalilea o'r enw Nasareth, at wryf oedd wedi ei dyweddio i wŵr o'r enw Joseff, o dŷ Dafydd; Mair oedd enw'r wryf,' 26.

i) **Wryf** (virgin): Sylwer, anfonwyd Gabriel '**gan Dduw**' at Mair – mae Duw yn trefnu! Wryf oedd Mair. Nid ydoedd wedi gorwedd gyda gŵr o'r blaen. Y baban fuasai'n beichiogi, nid Joseff oedd y tad ond Duw, "*Daw'r Ysbryd Glân arnat.*" Nid ydoedd wedi bod yn anffyddlon.

ii) **Breintiedig:** "*Henffych well, tydi, yr un y rhoddodd Duw ei ffafr iddi! Y mae'r Arglwydd gyda thi,*" 28. Yn y Saesneg, '*O favoured one,*' yr un breintiedig! Dyma yw deall 'ffafr' yma, 'breintiedig'. Duw dewisodd Mair, o holl ferched Israel, i fod yn fam i'r Meseia. **Ond pwy oedd Mair?** Merch ifanc gyffredin, heb brofiad o fagu plentyn o'r blaen. Medd Beibl.net, '*Roedd yn gwybod bod ei forwyn yn ferch gyffredin iawn,*' 48. **Ond pam dewis Mair?** Dyma gras ar

waith – ffafr anhaeddiannol Duw tuag at Mair. Ni wnaeth dewis Mair oherwydd unrhyw haeddiant; dyma a wna Duw, dewis y cyffredin i wneud gwaith anghyffredin. A oedd hyn yn risg? Na, roedd yr Arglwydd gyda hi! 28.

iii) **Distadl:** '*Gorfoleddodd fy ysbryd yn Nuw, fy Ngwardwr, am iddo ystyried distadl ei lawforwyn,*' 48. Onid yw'n rhyfedd fod Duw yn dewis merch ddistadl fel Mair ac nid tywysoges gefnog i fod yn fam i Iesu? Ond dyma a wna Duw, cynorthwyo'r isel (53) a 'gwasgaru'r balch eu calon,' (51).

B. YR UN DRYSLYD.

'Ond cythryblwyd (dryswyd) hi drwyddi gan ei eiriau, a cheisiodd ddirnad pa fath gyfarchiad a allai hwn fod, 29.

Ymateb Mair i neges yr angel oedd ofn a dryswch. Pwy all ei beio? **A wnaeth amlygu anghrediniaeth?** Meddai Mair, "*Sut y digwydd hyn, gan nad wyf yn cael cyfathrach a gŵr?*" Nid anghrediniaeth ydyw ond syndod a rhyfeddod. Codi'r cwestiwn, "*Sut allai hyn fod heb gyfathrach?*" Roedd ei hymateb yn wahanol i Sara gwraig Abraham a chwarddod ar addewid Duw am fab, Genesis 18. Roedd yn wahanol i ymateb Sachareias hefyd, a geisiodd sicrwydd cyn credu yn addewid yr angel am fab iddo ef ac

Elisabeth. *'Sut y caf sicrwydd o hyn? Oherwydd yr wyf fi yn hen, a'm gwraig wedi cyrraedd oedran mawr,'* 18.

Amlygu rhesymeg ddynol a wnaeth Sachareias ac nid ffydd yng ngair Duw! **Pwy ohonom sy'n deall yr ymgawdoliad yn llwyr?** Mae'r crediniwr yn datgan, *'Nid wyf yn deall yn llwyr y pethau yma, ond mewn ffydd 'rwyf yn eu derbyn a'u credu.'* Trystio yn Nuw a wnaeth Mair gan gydnabod Ei allu; *"Gwnaeth yr hwn sydd nerthol bethau mawr i mi,"* 49.

C. GOSTYNGEIDDRWYDD MAIR.

Gwnaeth yr angel Gabriel ateb Mair, *"Daw'r Ysbryd Glân arnat, a bydd nerth y Goruchaf yn dy gysgodi,"* 35. Dyma sut y daw'r cenhedlu i fod, trwy allu Duw, trwy'r Ysbryd Glân. Dyna pam mae Iesu yn wir ddyn (Mair yw ei fam) ac yn wir Dduw (Duw yw ei Dad). Ei enw fydd **Iesu** – Gwardwr! Mae yn fawr (yn bwysig iawn), yn Fab Duw ac yn Frenin ar deyrnas Dduw, a hynny am byth! (32-33).

Trwy gyfeirio at Elisabeth mae'n atgoffa Mair, nad yw dim yn amhosibl gyda Duw, 37. Ymateb Mair i hyn oll, ***"Dyma lawforwyn yr Arglwydd; bydded i mi yn ôl dy air di,"*** 38. Nid amau gair Duw ond yn ostyngedig yn datgan, *'Dw i eisiau gwasanaethu'r Arglwydd Dduw,'* 38 Beibl.net.

Mewn cyfnod pan mae cymaint yn amau geiriau Duw, **beth wnawn ni?**

Amlygu diffyg ffydd fel Sara a Sachareias. Neu mewn gostyngedd, derbyn geiriau ac addewid Duw, fel y gwnaeth Mair, a cheisio ei wasanaethu Ef.

Gweddi:

O Dduw Dad, bydd gyda ni dros gyfnod y Nadolig. I'r sawl bydd yn teithio i weld teulu neu ffrindiau, cadw hwynt yn iach ac yn ddiogel. Mae'r feirws dal ar waith o'n cwmpas. Bydd y Nadolig yn wahanol i'r arfer y flwyddyn hon, ond helpa ni i ddal gafael ar wir ystyr yr Ŵyl. *"Daeth Crist Iesu i'r byd i achub pechaduriaid,"* 1 Timotheus 1:15. Fe ddaeth er mwyn delio gyda'n drwg, ein glanhau a'n gwneud yn blant y nef.

Helpa ni i amlygu ffydd Mair. Er yn ferch ifanc gyffredin, gwnaeth amlygu gwyleidd-dra a chredu yng ngeiriau'r angel. Er mewn dryswch, gwnaeth ymostwng i eiriau Duw, canmol Ei enw a dangos parodrwydd i'w wasanaethu Ef. Boed i ninnau ddilyn ei hesiampl, gan ymostwng i Dduw a bod yn barod i ildio i'w ewyllys Ef. Yn enw Iesu Mawr, Amen.

MARY AND THE BIRTH OF JESUS.

Hymn: 917 *'Once in royal David's city.'*

Reading: Luke 1:26-38.

Message:

A. MARY, THE FAVOURED ONE.

'God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary,' 28.

i) A Virgin: Notice, Gabriel was sent 'from God.' God was at work! Mary had not slept with another man. Joseph would not be the natural father nor any other man; God was the Father, through the Holy Spirit. *'The Holy Spirit will come upon you,'* 35. Jesus is true man and true God.

ii) A Favoured Girl: *"Greetings, O favoured one, the Lord is with you!"* 28. The meaning of 'favoured' here is privileged. God chose Mary, from all the women of Israel, to be the mother of the Messiah! What a privilege! **Who was Mary?** A young, ordinary girl, who had not mothered a child before. **Why chose Mary?** This was God's grace at work, God's favour. Mary was not deserving of such favour, yet God chose her. God can choose the ordinary,

to do an extraordinary work! Was there a risk in choosing such a girl? No! The Lord would be with her, 28.

iii) Humble: *"My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked upon the humble estate of his servant,"* 48. God chose an ordinary, modest girl, like Mary, and not a rich princess, to be the mother of His Son. God can scatter the proud and bring down the mighty yet raise the meek and humble to do his work, (51-55).

B. MARY, THE TROUBLED ONE.

'But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be,' 29. Mary's response to the angel's message was fear and confusion. Who can blame Mary's response? **Mary, does she show unbelief?** She said, *"How will this be, since I am a virgin?"* 34. This is not unbelief but amazement and wonder at the angel's message. She raised a natural question, *"How can this be as I have had no intimate contact with a man?"* Her response was different to Sarah, the wife of Abraham, who laughed when God told her that she would bear a son, Genesis 18. It was also different to Zechariah's response, *"How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years,"* 18. He was looking for proof and certainty before believing God's words!

Zechariah was looking to human reasoning, and not placing his faith in the words of God. Who truly understands the incarnation? The believer says, *'I do not understand everything, yet by faith I accept and believe God's promises and words.'* Mary trusted in God and acknowledged his might; *"He who is mighty has done great things for me,"* 49.

C. MARY, THE HUMBLE ONE.

The angel Gabriel responded to Mary's fears with the words, *"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 called holy – the Son of God,"* 35. This is how she will conceive a child, through God's power, by the Holy Spirit. Her son will be both man (Mary the mother) and God (God the Father), and his name will be Jesus, the Saviour! He will be great, the Son of God and a King forever! (32-33).

By reference to Elizabeth, the angel reminds Mary that nothing is impossible with God, 37. Mary's response to all this? *"I am the Lord's servant. May it be to me as you have said,"* 38. Humbly Mary accepts God's words, and shows her desire to serve Him.

At a time when so many question the words of God, how do we respond? Are we like Sarah and Zechariah showing unbelief or are we like Mary, humbly accepting God's words and seeking to serve Him?

Prayer:

O Father God, as we approach Christmas time, be with us. To all who will travel to meet with family and friends, keep them safe and healthy, as the virus is still at work at this time. This Christmas will be different to other years, but help us to remember the true meaning of the celebrations. *"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners,"* 1 Timothy 1:15. Jesus came to earth to deal with our sin, to offer us forgiveness, so that we could one day go to heaven.

Help us to reflect a faith like Mary's faith. Though a young, ordinary girl, in humility she believed the angel's words. Though fearful and confused, she trusted in God's promise, she praised His name and offered her life in service to God. May we follow her example by listening to God's words and yielding our lives in service to Him. Amen.