





New Series

*Christmas*

The Most

**FULL OF WONDER**

Time of Year



The Good News is this:

The coming of Jesus was never meant to be just a “wonderful time of year.”

But his coming is to be *personally experienced* as the most “**FULL of WONDER**” event in human history!

FULL of WONDER =

To stand amazed, to marvel, to be  
astonished!

## Foundational Truth:

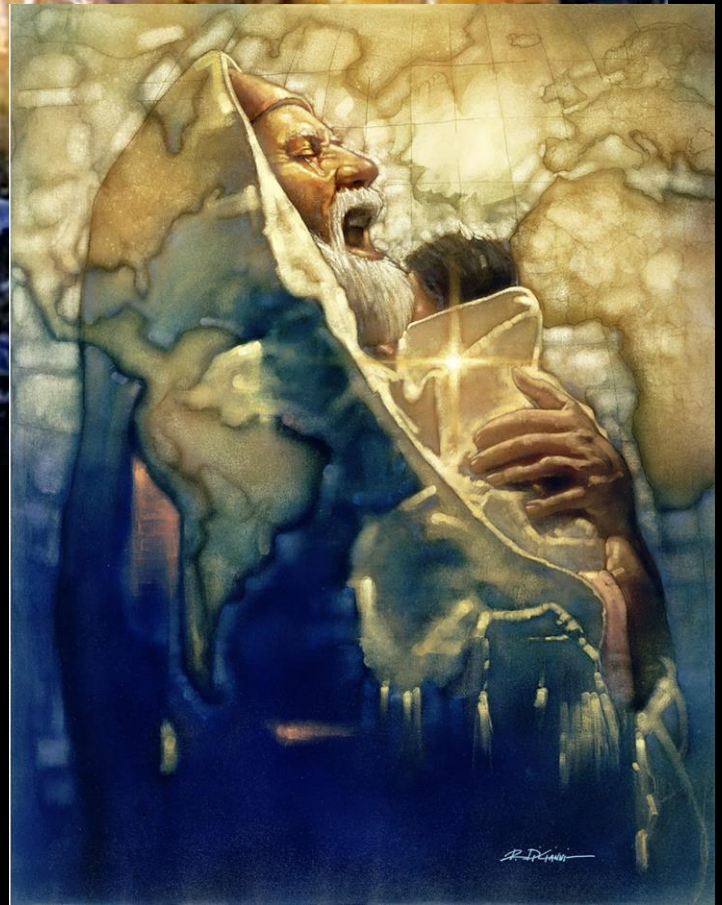
There is a big difference between seeing Christmas as a “wonderful time of year” as opposed to standing “**FULL of WONDER**” at the coming of Jesus!

## I Love to Tell the Story

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love;  
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true,  
It satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the  
rest;

Arabella K. Hankey







Mary

An overview:

1. Needed a Savior just like us.
2. Was the mother of Jesus!
3. Was the very first Christian theologian!
4. Is an example of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus!

In his gospel, Luke gives examples of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. He points to Peter, Matthew and Zacchaeus, but Luke also points to Mary - especially Mary!

Dr. Charles Constable

Mary's message:

*For nothing is impossible  
with God!*

Do you believe this?



*Luke's goal in writing 1:26-55*

The text:

*Theological truths to believe*

The person:

*Mary is an example to follow*

The reader:

*An important decision must be made*



*Truths to believe:*

The virgin birth meant that Jesus was both **fully God** and **fully man**.

**fully God** = Salvation Accomplished

**fully Man** = A second Adam

*“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was **hovering over the waters.**”*

Gen. 1:2

*“Mary’s Son is an ‘extra-ordinary’ action of God’s creative power as unique as the initial creation story.”*

Raymond Brown







*Truths to believe:*

Mary's child is a promise fulfilled to Abraham for the sake of world.

“Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation, and all nations on earth will be blessed through him.” Gen. 18:18

*Truths to believe:*

Mary's child is a promise fulfilled  
motivated out of God's mercy.

“Mercy involves the emotions of a person; it is a gift to people who don't deserve it. Christmas is not a reward for being good-Christmas is God's mercy!

Darrel Johnson

*Truths to believe:*

Mary's child is God's salvation  
accomplished by the "arm of Lord".



*"I will redeem you with an outstretched arm."*

Ex. 6:6

*Truths to believe:*

Mary's child means a *radical reversal* of human values and hope for all.

How can Christ's mercy flow into our lives when our souls are filled with pride, self and riches? Luke is saying those who know their deep need for mercy will be the ones standing **Full of Wonder!**

Mary's message:

*For nothing is impossible  
with God!*

Do you believe this?



*Mary's example to follow:*

Presence:

Mary allows the God of the impossible do the improbable-come and dwell 'IN' mankind.

*“They will live in me and I in them, and they will bear much fruit.”*

John 15:5

“To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”

Col 1: 27

“Jesus replied, ‘Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home within them.’”

John 14: 23



*“Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.”*

1 Cor. 6:19-20

*Mary's example to follow:*

Purpose:

Mary's significance comes from embracing her role as a servant of God's purposes.

*"The greatest among you will be the servants."*

Matt. 23:11

“The world defines greatness in terms of power, possessions, prestige, and position. If you can demand service from others, you’ve arrived. Ours is a self-serving culture .

Jesus, however, measured greatness in terms of service, not status. God determines your greatness by how and if you serve people, not how many people serve you.”

Rick Warren

*Mary's example to follow:*

Praise:

Filled with God's presence,  
submitted to his purposes,  
results in a life of praise to God.

*The readers' important decision:*

Are you willing to trust God  
with the most important area  
of your life?

*For nothing is impossible  
with God!*

Do you believe this?