

The Power of God's Word

Part 4

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Hale
Ray of Hope Christian Church
February 1, 2022



Luke 1:5-20; 26-38



**Zechariah asked the angel, “How can I be sure of this?
I am an old man, and my wife is well along in years.”
The angel said to him, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence
of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you
this good news. And now you will be silent and not able to
speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe
my words, which will come true at the appointed time.**

Luke 1:18-20



**“How will this be,” Mary asked
the angel, “since I am a virgin?”**

Luke 1:34



**I am the Lord's servant,"
Mary answered. "May your word
to me be fulfilled."
Then the angel left her.**

Luke 1:38



**Power is the ability to affect
change or produce an effect.
It has the capacity to wield force
and make things happen.**



**We know that the
word has power.**



**By the word of the Lord the heavens
were made, their starry host by
the breath of his mouth. For he spoke,
and it came to be; he commanded,
and it stood firm.**

Psalm 33:6,9



As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but what accomplish the purpose for which I sent it.

Isaiah 55:10-11



**The word does not lack
power to accomplish the
very purpose for which
God sends it.**



**He sent his word and
he healed them.**

Psalm 107:20



**We must respond in a certain way
in order for God's word to
accomplish the purpose for which
he sends it in our lives.**



Both of them were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly.

Luke 1:6



Discussion Question:

Can God say that about you? Do you try to keep your heart clean before God? Are your motives and intentions pure? Do you seek to do what God expects of you even when it is uncomfortable or undesirable?



**This couple had been fervently
praying for a child, no doubt
for years, without success.**



Discussion Question:

Have you ever wanted something for so long that your desire waned in the waiting; and you were sure, given the passage of time, you would never, have it?



Discussion Question:

**What desire do you have that
you have given up hope that it
will ever happen?**



**We operate in Chronos,
according to a calendar and a
clock. God operates in Kairos,
the fullness of time.**



**He is the Lord of
history and time.**



©2022 Cynthia L. Hale Ministries, LLC.
All Rights Reserved.

A voice crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all people will see it together.

Isaiah 40:3-5



**Zechariah asked the angel,
“How can I be sure of this?
I am an old man, and my wife
is well along in years.”**



The angel said to him, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news.

And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at the appointed time.”



Discussion Question:

**Why do you think the
Lord rendered Zachariah
unable to speak?**



**How can I be sure of this?
I am an old man, and my wife
is well along in years?**



But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect anything from the Lord.

James 1:6



It was an act of mercy. Zachariah's mouth would have stood in the way of God's blessing had he been allowed to say anymore.

Jack Taylor



**Zechariah was about to let his
mouth rob him of his blessing.**



**Too often we are like Zachariah,
we open our mouths and speak
on the basis of what we see and
feel rather than take God at his word
and speak in faith, as Mary did.**



**Greetings, you who are highly
favored! The Lord is with you!**

Luke 1:28



**“How will this be since
I am a virgin?”**

Luke 1:34



The difference is she didn't express any doubt in the angel's message or ask for proof. She viewed the promise in light of a human problem. She was a virgin.



**For with God nothing
shall be impossible.**

Luke 1:37



**“No word (rhema) from GOD is
without dynamism.”**

**If we convert this phrase to the
positive, it can be read to declare:
“Every word from God has power!”**



**If you understood the nature of
God's word, then you would know
that when God says or declares a
thing, inherent in it is the power to
bring it to pass.**



For no word from God will ever fail.



©2022 Cynthia L. Hale Ministries, LLC.
All Rights Reserved.

Mary's response to the angel is the one that each of us needs to adopt. It is the model, the way to see the manifestation of the Word of God in our lives, accomplishing the purpose for which he sends it.



How did Mary respond to God's word?

1. Mary listened to the word of God through the angel.



How did Mary respond to God's word?

2. Mary heard the word of God.



Discussion Question:

Do you have your ears to the lips of GOD, attuned to his voice? Have you cultivated the ability to recognize his voice and know that it is him speaking?



How did Mary respond to God's word?

3. Mary received the word of God.

“I am the Lord's servant!”



How did Mary respond to God's word?

4. Mary confessed the word she received.



**Luke 8:4-15,
Jesus tells the Parable of the Sower**



**“The seed is the word of GOD!”
The word for seed in the Greek is
“spermous, from which we get our
word “sperm”.**



The word of GOD is like a seed that when planted, received in the hearts of persons, and confessed, become the very thing of which it speaks.



How did Mary respond to God's word?

5. Finally, Mary obeyed the word she had just heard, received, and confessed.



“Blessed are you among women and blessed is the child you will bear. But why am I so favored, that the mother my Lord should come to me. As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promise to her!”

Luke 1:42-45

