

# The Word of the Lord Came.....

**Divine Community Church, Dudley**  
**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

**St John's Church, Stourbridge**  
**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

This is a message of five occasions in the Bible when **the word of the Lord came** - all involving the birth of a child. All references refer to the significant role of a woman! The emphasis that this is matter I know little about!

However, hearing the word of the Lord as recorded in the Bible is nothing unusual. Hearing God's voice is embedded in every page of the word of God. Therefore what follows are some examples of those who heard God's voice throughout history as we are inspired at this time of the year to hear what God is saying to us individually and collectively.

## **(1) Abram - Genesis Chapter 15 Verse 1 - 5**

"The Word of the Lord to Abram in a vision:

Do not be afraid, Abram  
I am your shield  
your very great reward."

But Abram said "O Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I remain childless ....

Then the word of the Lord came to him: "Look up in to the heavens and count the stars - if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be"

Abram believe the Lord and it was credited to him as righteousness.

### **(i) God's purpose**

Genesis Chapter 12 verses 1 - 3

### **(ii) God's people**

Genesis Chapter 17 - the everlasting covenant

### **(iii) God's provision**

Genesis Chapter 22 Verse 14

*The word of the Lord is good for all people of all nations.*

## **(2) Samuel - 1 Samuel Chapter 3 Verses 1 - 21**

(iv) God's prophet

The Call of Samuel

The Lord was with Samuel as he grew up and he let none of his words fall to the ground. 1 Samuel Chapter 3 Verse 19.

The plea of Hannah

"As she (Hannah) kept praying to the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. Hannah was praying in her heart, and her lips were moving but her voice was not heard. Eli thought she was drunk and said to her "How long will you keep getting drunk? Get rid of your wine!"

"Not so, my Lord, Hannah replied. I am a woman who is deeply troubled. I have not been drinking wine or beer; I was pouring my soul out to the Lord. Do not take your servant to be a wicked woman; I have been praying here out of my great anguish and grief."

1 Samuel Chapter 1 Verses 12 - 16.

The prayer of Hannah - 1 Samuel Chapter 2

*The Word of the Lord is good for those who pray for a miracle.*

## **(3) Hosea - Hosea Chapters 1 and 2**

(v) God's protest

The word of the Lord came to Hosea, son of Beeri during the reigns of Uzziah, Jothan, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, Kings of Judah and during the reign of Jeroboam son of Joash, King of Israel.

When the Lord spoke through Hosea, "Go take yourself an adulterous wife and children of unfaithfulness, because the land is guilty of adultery in departing from the Lord." So he married Gomer, daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

Then the Lord said to Hosea, "Call him Jezreel (God scatters).

Gomer conceived again and gave birth to a daughter. Then the Lord said to Hosea, "Call her Lo Ruhamah (not loved), for I will no longer show love to the house of Israel that I should at all forgive them. For I will show love to the house of Judah; and I will save them - not by bow, sword or battle, or by horsemen, but by the Lord their God."

After she had weaned Lo Ruhamah, Gomer had another son. Then the Lord said, call him Lo Ammi (not my people) for you are not my people, and I am not your God."

Yet the Israelites will be like sand on the seashore, which cannot be measured or counted. In the place where it was said to them, "You are not my people, they will be called sons of the living God." The people of Judah and the people of Israel will be reunited and will appoint one leader and will come up out of the land, and great will be the day of Jezreel."

Hosea Chapter 1 Verses 1 - 11.

"I will plant for myself in the Land  
I will show my love to the one I called "not my loved one"  
I will say to those called "not my people"  
And they will say, "You are my God."

Hosea Chapter 2 verse 23

Other Biblical examples: Rahab (Prostitute and Inn Keeper) and Ruth (Asylum Seeker).

*The word of the Lord is good for all socially excluded.*

#### **(4) Zechariah - Luke Chapter 1 Verses 5 - 21**

(vi) God's preparation

Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him (Zechariah), standing at the right side of the alter of incense. When Zachariah saw him, he was started and gripped with fear. But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid Zechariah, your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John. He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He will never take wine or other fermented drink and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit from birth, for he will great in the sight of the Lord. Many of the people of Israel he will bring back to the Lord. And he will go before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous - to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

Luke Chapter 1 Verses 11 - 17.

*The word of the Lord is good news to the family.*

#### **(5) Mary - Luke Chapter 1 Verses 26 - 38**

(vii) God's promise

In the sixth month, 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. The angel went to her and said, Greetings to you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled by his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, for you have found favour with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and be called Son of the Most high. The lord will give him the throne of his Father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever; his kingdom will never end.

"How will this be, Mary asked the angel, since I am a virgin?"

"The angel answered, the Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is to have a child in her old age, and she who is said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God."

"I am the Lords servant," Mary answered. "May it be as you said." Then the angel left her.

Luke Chapter 1 Verses 24 - 38.

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everybody praised him.

He went to Nazareth where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went in to the synagogue as was his custom. And he stood up to read. The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

"The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim liberty for the prisoners  
And recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed,  
To proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

Luke Chapter 4 verses 14 - 21.

*The word of the Lord is God's promise fulfilled.*

