## THE INTRODUCTION: NOT WHAT IT MAY SEEM

#### **Perspective**

Ecclesiastes 1:4-10 One generation passes away, and another generation comes; But the earth abides forever. (5) The sun also rises, and the sun goes down, And hastens to the place where it arose. (6) The wind goes toward the south, And turns around to the north: The wind whirls about continually, And comes again on its circuit. (7) All the rivers run into the sea, Yet the sea is not full; To the place from which the rivers come, There they return again. (8) All things are full of labor; Man cannot express it. The eye is not satisfied with seeing, Nor the ear filled with hearing. (9) That which has been is what will be, That which is done is what will be done, And there is nothing new under the sun. (10) Is there anything of which it may be said, "See, this is new"? It has already been in ancient times before us.

#### Memories of a Covenant Childhood

### Seeing People for What They Are

Psalms 74:12 For God is my King from of old, Working salvation in the midst of the earth.

Psalms 37:25 I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread.

#### Not Just Now, But Still

Psalms 92:13-15 Those who are planted in the house of the LORD Shall flourish in the courts of our God. (14) They shall still bear fruit in old gae: They shall be fresh and flourishing, (15) To declare that the LORD is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

### THE TEMPTATION OF EVERY AGE

# **Aged Witnesses**

# THE MESSAGE: WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE **POSSIBLE**

Luke 1:32-33 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; 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 of His

kingdom there will be no end."

Mary then asks...

Luke 1:34-37 Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" (35) And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. (36) Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. (37) For with God nothing will be impossible."

## Mary: How Can You Know?

2 Chronicles 20:5-6 Then Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court, (6) and said: "O LORD God of our fathers, are You not God in heaven, and do You not rule over all the kingdoms of the nations, and in Your hand is there not power and might, so that no one is able to withstand You?

Job testifies and says...

Job 23:13-14 "But He is unique, and who can make Him change? And whatever His soul desires, that He does. (14) For He performs what is appointed for me, And many such things are with Him.

And the once proud, but broken Nebuchadnezzar admitted that before your God, children...

Daniel 4:35 All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven And among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand Or say to Him, "What have You done?"

#### Freewill

# Witnessed from the Beginning

Genesis 1:2-3 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. (3) Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

Psalms 33:6-9 By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. (7) He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap; He lays up the deep in

storehouses. (8) Let all the earth fear the LORD; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him. (9) For He spoke, and it was *done*; He commanded, and it stood fast.

#### **Elected Volunteers**

Abraham, Pharaoh, David, Prophets and Apostles, and The Incarnation Participants

Luke 1:18-20 And Zacharias said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years." (19) And the angel answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings. (20) But behold, you will be mute and not able to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time."

#### Mary, in Particular

## The Angel's Declaration

#### Consistent

Isaiah 40:4-5 Every valley shall be exalted And every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight And the rough places smooth; (5) The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

## Two Witnesses

...all the instances in the Old Testament of those having children that had been long barren, which was above nature, were designed to prepare the world for the belief of a virgin's bearing a son, which was against nature. And therefore, even in the birth of Isaac, Abraham saw Christ's day, foresaw such a miracle in the birth of Christ. HENRY

For with God nothing shall be impossible, and, if nothing, then not this. No word of God must be incredible to us, as long as no work of God is impossible to him. M. HENRY

## **But This is a New Day**

### Stumbling Does Dishonor

Numbers 11:11-15

The LORD gently corrected Moses and then said,

Numbers 11:18-20

Moses looked around at the huge numbers of people who were encamped around him. He surveyed the stark and hostile wilderness and replied to the LORD saying...

Numbers 11:21-22

The LORD had a simple answer for His weary and discouraged servant...

Numbers 11:23 And the LORD said to Moses, "Has the LORD's arm been shortened? Now you shall see whether what I say will happen to you or not."

#### IN CONCLUSION

#### To the Lost Unbeliever

Isaiah 59:1 Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear.

Because with Him nothing is impossible, He is able...

Hebrews 7:25 ...to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

## To the Discouraged Believer

Whether it is His promise to never leave us or forsake us in any of the challenges or trials of this life, or whether it is His promise to one day...

Philippians 3:21 ...transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

What is there, consistent with wisdom and justice, that God cannot do? Is there anything too hard for him? In a word, if we trust in our own strength, nothing spiritually good can be accomplished; but if we trust in the Lord's strength, everything good will be achieved. FOOTE

Hebrews 11:1-3 & 6 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (2) For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. (3) By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. (6) But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

"...with God nothing will be impossible."