

Scripture Reading: Read Luke chapter 1

The riddle goes like this:

What is greater than God,
More evil than the devil,
The poor have it,
The rich don't need it
And if you eat it, you'll die?

In our chapter reading today, Luke provides us with the backstory to the birth of Jesus Christ. After his prologue, Luke first details the events surrounding the birth of the forerunner of Jesus, John the Baptist. We read how the angel Gabriel appeared to the priest, Zechariah, and announced to him that he and his wife, Elizabeth, were to have a boy. Their son was going to be filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb and that God was going to use him to prepare the way. Zechariah struggled to believe the word of the Lord since he and Elizabeth were quite old. All he needed to do was think back to his ancestors, Abraham and Sarah, and he would have realized that nothing was too hard for God. As a result of his unbelief, he was made mute until the boy was born.

Following this account, Luke takes us to Nazareth and to an encounter Gabriel had with Mary. He informs her that she was to give birth to a son and that she was to call his name Jesus. Her child would be the Son of the Most High and would reign over the house of David forever. Mary couldn't grasp how this was going to happen since she was a virgin and had no husband. Unlike in Zechariah's case, there were no Old Testament examples of women having children without the help of a man. So, rather than rebuking her as he did Zechariah, the angel explained to her that the Holy Spirit was going to come upon her and the power of the Most High would overshadow her. Therefore, the child born to her would be called the Son of God.

The virgin birth can't be explained except by way of a miracle. It's why the angel declared that nothing was impossible for God. An elderly couple having a child? Not impossible for God! A virgin giving birth to a son? Not impossible for God. Finishing what he started in you? Not impossible for God. No, nothing is impossible for God. And "nothing" is the answer to the riddle above and the title of today's devotional.

Action Step: Take a few minutes to scan through Luke and see all the impossible things Jesus did from healing the sick, casting out demons, stilling storms and raising the dead.

Prayer Focus: Give thanks to God today that nothing is impossible for Him.

Take-a-way: *For with God, nothing shall be impossible.*