

The Presence and the Influence

Jesus came into the world and the world changed forever, He comes into our lives and we are forever changed.

His presence and influence caused the change - No presence, no influence, no change.

- An **assurance**, Fear not.

Luk 1:30 And the angel said unto her, **Fear not**, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God.

- A **promise**, Thou shalt bring forth a son.
- A **command**, Thou shalt call his name JESUS

Luk 1:31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and **bring forth a son**, and **shalt call his name** JESUS.

- A **prophecy**, He shall be great, the Son of the Highest, sit on David's throne, reign forever.

Luk 1:32 **He shall be great**, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: 33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

The strongest point on the human side of this story is Mary's response to the angel of God. She asks a question but not out of fear. She did not fully understanding the process, but she made her stand and spoke her position. **Be it unto me according to thy word.** (she was in full agreement and cooperation with God) She received the Word, and in her was no going back. She was sold out to the plan. **What you said, let it happen, to me!**

I believe the minute she voiced her position, she became pregnant. The unity, agreement, surrender, and child like faith was all there. I believe the moment we come into agreement with the word we become pregnant.

DIVINE ENCOUNTER

We are daily in the same arena as Mary was.

- Jesus says constantly, fear not.
- God speaks to us a word.(it comes in various ways and through many avenues)
- We speak our response (yea or nay), fear of faith
- We then become pregnant or we miscarry the Word of God.
- The **presence** of Jesus changed her life, and His **influence** altered her life from the moment he was born.

The word became flesh and dwelt among us. (the Word in the form of a man)

The word became flesh and dwelt in Mary and then was brought forth, born into the world to save the world.

Likewise the word dwells in us and becomes flesh in our lives. We live out the word in the flesh.

And we give forth the Word to others so they can be born again.

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- Mary gave birth to the word by child birth - We give birth to the word by our speaking by faith
- Mary got pregnant by the Holy Ghost - We get pregnant by the Holy Ghost in the revelation He gives us.
- Mary was favored by God - we are favored by God
- God used Mary for His purpose -- God uses us for His purpose.
- God chose Mary to bring forth the Word --- God chose us to bring forth His word.
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PRESENCE - The Presence we are under, the place we are present at, and the effect on the place we are at.

In the face of, before, to be looked upon, the part of you felt, perceived, noticed, which effects the surroundings

His presence changes our presence!

Psa 119:130 The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

Php 2:16 Holding forth **the word of life**; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither labored in vain. - He will never leave or forsake us. He is ever with us – Emmanuel – God with us.

Psa 16:11 Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy **presence** is fullness of joy; at thy right hand *there are* pleasures forevermore.

INFLUENCE

To produce an effect without the exertion of force or any direct contact.

His influence changes our influence!

To live by presence and influence

Act 4:13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marveled; and **they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.** (They had been in the presence and influence of Jesus and it effected their presence and influence.)

Today we find too many “Christians” **under the influence** of anything but God.

It has become popular in most circles to say, “I am a Christian” when the reality may be different.

Gen 3:8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the **presence** of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. **Why because of the sin. Sin causes us to shy, hide from, keep away from God. When we sin RUN TO God NOT AWAY FROM HIM.**

It is time for the church to stand up and be the church.

Not to take on any other identity, plan or purpose that is not what God intended from the beginning.

Ye must be born again – BEING BORN AGAIN DEMANDS PROOF A CHANGE WAS MADE.

The word proof calls forth one who has had an experience which shows forth the genuine of the event.

Joh 3:21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

Ye must be born of water and of the Holy Spirit.

The water speaks of the cleansing of the Spirit of God and of the Spirit is the changing of the heart

Taking on a new nature, a new way, a new life, in all things. – Yes a process, but nevertheless a manifested change.

Eze 36:25 Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleanness; and from all your idols will I cleanse you.

Eze 36:26 A new heart will I give you and a new spirit will I put within you, and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Eze 36:27 And I will put my Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you shall heed My ordinances and do them.

I believe that when you truly become born again, and receive Jesus into your heart there is a change inside. Which begins the process of the outward manifestation and demonstration of the inward change.

Jesus came to this earth, was born a babe in a manger, grew up, was crucified, raised from the dead, lives for evermore. To pay the price for the sin of all mankind.

One question that arises many times, why do people act like they do when they claim to be saved.

People go through the motions but there is no physical change in their lifestyle, habits or behavior. Why?

It can be summed up in one thought –

People have an emotional experience and accept Jesus as Savior so they will not go to hell. They have emotionally acknowledged God, they believe, but have not given God their will.

Jesus must be received as **LORD** and Savior. His **LORDSHIP** produces the change in our will and who is in control.

Being “Born again” is to be now born under the rule of Jesus and live our lives by His presence and influence.

(I am not talking about the on-going growing process.)

The word “Savior” is mentioned 37 times in the Bible

The word “Lord” is mentioned over 5500 times. I think God is trying to say something.