

Mary Craig Ministries, Inc.

Christmas 2021 Message: “Son of God Most High”

Dr. Mary Craig



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God loved the world, the cosmos, so much that He gave His one and only, unique Son, that those who believe in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16

In her book, *The Hiding Place*, Corrie ten Boom writes, “Do you know what hurts so very much? It's love. Love is the strongest force in the world, and when it is blocked that means pain. There are two things we can do when this happens. We can kill that love so that it stops hurting. But then of course part of us dies, too. Or we can ask God to open up another route for that love to travel.” Corrie ten Boom, Elizabeth Sherrill, John Sherrill (2006). “The Hiding Place”, p.60, Chosen Books

When the time was right, God, the Most High God, shattered the silence of 400 years suddenly. Holy elect angels go on assignment, a virgin named Mary learns she is highly favored and what will take place. When the day comes, she gives birth in Bethlehem to a baby; a baby being born in a manger with all the sounds and smells of a stable. Shepherds out in a field tending their flocks witness a spectacle of holy angels speaking of this birth of One who will be great. Is this believable? Actually, yes. Here's some of the narrative.

When the angel Gabriel was sent from God to Nazareth in Galilee to Mary, the angel told her that she was highly favored and that the Lord was with her, that she was blessed among women. This troubled Mary, who wondered what was going on! Gabriel calmed her down and again told her that she had found favor with God.

*And, behold, you shall conceive in your womb,
And bring forth a son, and shall call His name JESUS.
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...
And of His kingdom there shall be no end. Luke 1:32, 33*

When Mary queried how God would fulfill this, the angel said to her, “The Holy Ghost shall come upon you, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow you: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of you shall be called the Son of God.” (Luke 1:35) What is conceived in Mary is of the Holy Ghost. (Matthew 1:20)

John the Baptist would be called the prophet of the Highest because “he would go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways; to give knowledge of salvation unto His people by the remission of their sins, through the tender mercy of our God: whereby the dayspring from on high has visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.” (Luke 1:76-79)

Demons knew full well who Jesus of Nazareth was and is. The demons in the Gadarene demoniac cried out and said with a loud voice, “**What have I to do with you, Jesus, Son of God most high? I beseech you, torment me not.**” (Luke 8:28; cf. Mark 5:7)

Jesus called His Father “the Highest,” (Luke 6:35; Matthew 5:45) and Stephen, giving testimony to God Most High said,

*However, the Most High does not dwell in houses made
By human hands; as the prophet says:
‘Heaven is My throne, and earth is the footstool of My feet;
What kind of house will you build for Me?’ says the Lord,
‘Or what place is there for My repose? Was it not My hand
Which made all these things?’ Acts 7:48-50*

Who is God Most High? Perhaps we will better appreciate who Jesus is by looking at what scriptures tell us about Jesus’ Father.

In Hebrew God Most High is El Elyon. He is the strongest of the strong, surpassing all others. His dominion is everlasting and His kingdom endures from one generation to another. He does according to His will, according to all His good pleasure, and no one thwarts Him. (Daniel 4:34, 35; Job 42:2) God is sovereign. Satan is not in control; God is. God is the Creator/Redeemer. Satan is a creature and no savior. What God intends will come to pass. His plans will stand and will not be frustrated. When He moves, He cannot be stopped. He is a strong tower. He cannot be moved. He does not change. (Proverbs 18:10; Malachi 3:6) God is not subject to the winds of change or chance.

Daniel understood this clearly. In blessing the God of heaven, he said:

*Blessed be the Name of God forever and ever:
For wisdom and might are His: And He changes the times and
The seasons: He removes kings, and sets up kings: He gives
Wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: He reveals
The deep and secret things: He knows what is in the
Darkness, and the light dwells with Him. Daniel 2:20-22*

It is the Most High God who controls the destiny of nations, kings, and kingdoms. He is sovereign over death and life, harm and health. (Deut. 32:39; 1 Samuel 2:6; Job 5:18; Isaiah 30:26; Hosea 6:1, 2) He is sovereign over the future. (Is. 46:9, 10; Psalm 103:19; Is 45:6, 7)

The Most High God can turn any difficulty into opportunity and blessing. He wants us to trust Him, acknowledge His sovereignty, humble ourselves under His mighty hand, and know that He loves us, so much so that He sent His Son, the Son of the Highest, to save His people from their sins. For more, look at Numbers 24:16; Ps 18:13; Ps 7:17; Ps 50:14; Ps 77:10; Ps 78:35) Cry out to Him. (Psalm 57:2)

Lucifer aspired to make himself like the Most High (Is 14:14) but cannot. There is only one Most High God. And the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ. Jesus Christ is Son of the Highest. He is the Word made flesh, come to dwell among us. He is God the Son. He gave His life that those who believe in Him might have everlasting life. If God is for you, who can be against you? If He is your God, how can you not succeed in the purposes He has for you?

Jesus is Lord, in control of our destiny in Him. The New Covenant in His Blood is a covenant that cannot be broken, a bond of which He is the Surety. As One who keeps Covenant with His own, He provides, protects, pities, preserves, empowers, pursues His enemies to their destruction, prevents with His goodness, manifests His Presence, grants The Peace, and blesses. It is by His grace, and of His fullness that we have all received, and grace for grace when we receive Him. By the grace of God the Holy Spirit, the heart is regenerated, born out of God, and a person turns in repentance from his/her sin. With the gift of faith, this person turns toward Jesus, who lived the life of righteousness required even to paying the penalty for sin to satisfy divine justice. He died. He was buried. He rose again from the dead, ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. He is coming again. This is the Gospel, the Good News that holy angels announced, for this Child, this Baby in a manger, cried with a cry that shattered God's silence and stunned the world such that everything changed.

This Jesus, this Baby Jesus is God. He created His mother. His first cries were wordless, the cries of an infant; yet Jesus is God Incarnate, the Word become flesh to dwell among us.

"The Almighty appeared on earth as a helpless human baby, needing to be fed and changed and taught to talk like any other child. The more you think about it, the more staggering it gets. Nothing in fiction is so fantastic as this truth of the Incarnation." ~J.I. Packer

Corrie ten Boom said, "Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God."

This Christmas season, remember who Jesus is, the Son of the Highest, Son of God Most High, God in flesh appearing. Worship Him in spirit and in truth. Give to Him the glory due His Name. Go in that Name bearing witness to His grace and gift of eternal life. Amen.

Mary Craig, D. Min.

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Merry Christmas



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