

# Why Little Mary; Why The Little Bride?

*Friday Fellowship, 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023*

*Bro. James Menni*

## Isaiah 7:14

<sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

## Luke 12:32

<sup>32</sup> Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

These Whys

64-1227 — Who Do You Say

This Is?

44 ....Everything in the Bible  
has a meaning. Every name has  
a meaning. There's nothing  
written in the Scripture but  
has a—a profound meaning.

45 I spoke the other night at Tucson, on Why Did It Have To Be Shepherds Instead Of Theologian? He was born right in the side of the church. And the Holy Spirit going way out into the wilderness and picking up,

not theologians, but shepherds.  
It had to be that way.  
Theologians wouldn't have  
believed such a Message. So  
they...it had to be shepherds.

46 I preached up here, a few  
years ago, two years ago, Why  
Was It, That Had To Be Little  
Bethlehem? The Lord willing,  
next Christmas, I want us  
preach on, Why Did It Have To  
Be The Wise Men?



These Whys?: they got answers to them, and they're right here in the Bible. And we're living in a marvelous time, the greatest time of all ages. We're living to when, anytime that it...

time can cease and Eternity can  
blend right in with it and go on.  
The ages that all the prophets  
and sages looked forward to.  
We ought to be every hour on  
our guard, watching for His  
coming.

We Are In Another  
Christmas

# 63-1127 — The World Is Again<sup>12</sup>

## Falling Apart

37 But we find out, at this Christmas, to get down to the subject, that this Christmas finds the world just about like it did two thousand years ago, when Jesus came.

It hasn't changed very much since then. Cause, this, that Christmas found the world falling apart, and was looking for a Messiah to help hold it together.

And—and that's about the way  
it is today, we are doing the  
same thing. The World Is Again  
Falling Apart.

38 Now, that's not only in America here, but that's all over the world, wherever you go; the religious world, the political world, the everything, the—the world of moral.

It—it, there is just no more of it,  
it's just...Morals is just amongst  
the good people, anymore, and  
that's very hard to find.



It's—it's a shame. And politics  
and everything is corrupted, till  
the whole thing is sick and  
putrefied sores, from the head  
to the feet, the whole world.  
Our political system, our  
religious system,

our moral system, everything  
we've got, is gone!

Just, there is no way to keep it  
together. She, she is finished!

The...We're at the end of the  
road. That's all there is to it.

39 We, I know we talked about it a long time, but one of these days it's going to be past talking about, it's going to be a historical thing, and we'll find ourself outside if we don't watch at this time.

40 I wonder, if we this  
Christmas, if God should send  
Him again like He did back  
there two thousand years ago,  
if He would send Him to us in  
1964, I wonder if we wouldn't  
do with Him as they did then?

I just wonder if His Coming would be any more, He'd be any more welcomed, in the—in the—in the political world or in the religious world, than He was then?

I just wonder if we're in any  
more shape to receive Him, as  
He was then? But we know He  
was rejected then.

Mary

## Matthew 1:18-23

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.



<sup>19</sup> Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily.

<sup>20</sup> But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

<sup>21</sup> And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

<sup>23</sup> Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

## Luke 1:26-35

<sup>26</sup> And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,

<sup>27</sup> To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

<sup>28</sup> And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.



<sup>29</sup> And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

<sup>30</sup> And the angel said unto her,  
Fear not, Mary: for thou hast  
found favour with God.

<sup>31</sup> And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

<sup>32</sup> 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:

<sup>33</sup> And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

<sup>34</sup> Then said Mary unto the  
angel, How shall this be, seeing I  
know not a man?

35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

Her Background



52-0810A — I Am The Resurrection  
And The Life

21 Then watch, just down in  
Nazareth, the meanest city in the  
country, worse than Chicago,  
probably. Then, pretty near as bad  
as Jeffersonville, where I come  
from.

Then the first thing you know,  
well, there, a little virgin one  
day, engaged to a man about  
forty-five years old, widower  
with about four children.

65-0124 — Birth Pains

167 Now she is in the worst stage, that, according to the Scripture, that she's ever been. We are in the Laodicean church age, "A rich, but blinded church age, that don't know it."

168 There wasn't nowhere in the Bible that Christ was ever put out of the church, but the Laodicea age. She's in the worst age. She's the rottenest she ever was. Said, "I set as a queen, have need of nothing."

169 “And don’t know that you’re naked, miserable, blind, poor, and don’t know it.” Yes, sir. Said, “I counsel thee, come buy eyesalve from Me, that I might open your eyes.”

And that'll—*that'll*  
certainly...The eyesalve of God  
will certainly bring Light to the  
church if it wants to open its  
eyes to what God has said.

170 Notice, quickly now. Now,  
she is in that stage, beyond a  
shadow of doubt. We're in the  
Laodicea church age.

# The Salutation



65-1125 — The Invisible Union Of  
The Bride Of Christ

40 May I add to this Woman,  
Grace, may I place Her in the  
Bible, also, as called the elect  
Lady, this Miss Grace I'm going to  
talk about. You know, the Bible  
declares,

said, “To the elect Lady.”  
That, if you notice, “elect”  
come from the word “elected  
Lady.” One Lady, amongst all  
the other ladies, was elected.

41 Like, the virgin was to bring forth the body of God, on the earth. She was an elected woman. God chose Mary.

42 And, also, God has chose an  
electe Lady, which is His  
Bride. She's electe. I hope  
we're members of that, tonight,  
across the world, across the  
nation, rather.

65-0410 — The Easter Seal

239 Do you know you're the  
ones the Bible speaks of? Do  
you know your position is in  
Christ? If you're in Christ,  
you're a new creature.

Do you know this Word is just  
like everyday living, to you?  
Why, sure. It's yours. You are  
an eagle. That's your Food.

65-1125 — The Invisible Union  
Of The Bride Of Christ

265 You are the pure, virtuous,  
sinless Bride of the Son of the  
living God.

Every man and woman that's  
born of the Spirit of God, and  
washed in the Blood of Jesus  
Christ,



and believes every Word of  
God, stands as though you  
never sinned at the first place.  
You are perfect. The Blood of  
Jesus Christ! How can you...If a  
man...

65-0120 — Lean Not Unto Thy  
Own Understanding

17 So, you see, if you were in the foreknowledge of God, then you are becoming a part of God.

And the only way you can be a son of God or a daughter of God, you had to be a part of God, and God isn't complete without you. Has to be.

She Was Espoused

## 63-0320 — The Third Seal

93 So, she stepped out from There. And before Adam ever got to her, for a wife, she was already defiled by Satan. And she...

94 And did you notice? Christ  
did the same thing, exactly.  
Now, for redeeming, God had  
to be there first.

Did you notice? Mary, before  
she come to Joseph, the Holy  
Spirit had done got there.  
Amen. See? That's where the  
Redeemer come.

65-1125 — The Invisible Union  
Of The Bride Of Christ

212 Now, it was nature,  
associated with death.



Your first husband, that had rule over you, was your nature by natural birth. Natural, you love the world because you are the world, and part of the world.

That right? Your desires was, by nature, to love the world which you're a part of. You're a part of nature. You believe that? And that's your natural thing.

213 That's the reason you have to be born again. You have to separate; you have to die to that first husband. You can't live with it. You just can't say, "Well, I'll divorce him, and hang him up here till occasion."

No, sir. No writing of  
divorcement! He dies. The  
nature of the world has to die.  
Every speck of him has to die.  
You have to be reunited, again,  
with another Nature.

214 Your name of your first nature, was born, and put in a book of life. And all your deeds was wrote in it, too. Everything you done under that nature was put in a book, called the book of life.

65-1125 — The Invisible Union  
Of The Bride Of Christ

222 Well, you separated from your first union, by spiritual death. Now you are born again, or remarried again, to the new spiritual union;

of not your natural life of the  
things of the world, but of  
Eternal Life. That germ that  
was in you at the beginning,  
found you.

223 Now, your old book is gone,  
with your old union. Now, your  
name in your old, in your...has  
been transferred.



Now, you say, “Do you mean to tell me that my old book...” God put it in the Sea of His Forgetfulness. You stand perfectly before God.

224 Now, your name is now in  
the new Book; not the book of  
life, but the Lamb's Book of  
Life, what the Lamb redeemed.

Not the old book of your natural  
union, but your new, Bride.

Hallelujah!

Your new life is in the Lamb's  
Book of Life, your marriage  
certificate, hallelujah, where  
your true Eternal germ, from  
the beginning, takes hold. Now  
you're not only forgiven, but  
you're justified. Glory!

# Her Faith

52-0810A — I Am The  
Resurrection And The Life

21 ...Now, look at the  
difference between Zacharias,  
that minister, who had studied  
the Scriptures over and over,

and over and over, and over and over again, had plenty of examples: There was Sarah, and Hannah, and so forth, back in the Old Testament, plenty examples.

He—he doubted it to be so. But  
this little girl didn't doubt. She  
said, "Behold the handmaid of  
the Lord; be it unto me  
according to Thy Word." What  
a difference.

22 Now, sometimes you can  
callous yourself. Reading the  
Bible, and just like reading a  
newspaper, and having about  
the same kind of faith that  
would, you have in one, then  
you callous yourself.



When you read God's Word,  
believe It just like It says It is  
there, and take God at His  
Word.

Now, as soon as she read this,  
or she seen this before her, and  
the Angel of the Lord said,

“You’re going to have a baby.”  
Look what she had to believe.  
Well, she had to believe  
something that had never  
happened.

Zacharias didn't have to...Plenty times did that happen through the Scriptures. He had plenty of examples. But Mary had to believe something that was total impossible,

and had never happened  
before. But yet, she didn't  
stagger at it; she just said,  
“Behold the handmaid of the  
Lord. Be it unto me.” She took  
God at His Word.

65-0218 — The Seed Is Not Heir  
With The Shuck

76 It had never been done in all  
of the ages, but Mary believed  
God.

And she said, “Behold the  
handmaid of the Lord.” She  
believed the Word.

How is she going to have it?

She knowed that Hagar had the baby by a sex desire, with Abraham; and Sarah had the baby by sex desire, with Abraham, children of promise; the bondswoman and the freewoman.

But here she is asked to believe.  
That's a contribution to the  
faith that was in Abraham, who  
believed the impossibles, "As  
long as God said it's so, that  
makes it right."



77 She believed God, never questioned. She said, “Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

No matter how much criticism  
I have to bear from the world,  
be it unto me according Thy  
Word.” There come forth the  
genuine Seed.

65-0410 — The Easter Seal

143 ....He that believes not the  
full Word of God is a sinner.

142 Those Pharisees believed  
in many things, to be the  
Truth. They said, “We are  
God’s children.” And they  
were, until that Word was  
preached.

But when that Word was  
preached and vindicated, then  
they become sinners, for  
rejecting the Thing that they  
knowed was right, and  
witnessed that.

“We know Thou art a teacher  
come from God, for no man  
could do the things that You do  
without God being with  
You.”

64-0802 — The Future Home Of  
The Heavenly Bridegroom And  
The Earthly Bride

257 Now you say, “Well, look at this priest. Wasn’t he a son of God?” It proved he wasn’t. He couldn’t recognize what?

Did he say, “I believe the Bible”?  
Sure. But he couldn't recognize  
the expressed Word of the  
hour. He only had an intellectual  
learning from some group that  
had been back before him.



258 And it's the same thing today! See? I know that's strong, but it's the Truth.

259 There was the Word, as spoken exactly for that day; and, he, yet he was a scholar, yet he was a renown person, but he could not recognize It.

Why? No matter how scholar he was, anything like that, he still didn't have representation of predestination. See?

260 Only the predestinated  
will only be the one who does  
it; only can be. ....

She Was The  
Earthen Vessel And  
Had To Bear The  
Reproach

## 2 Corinthians 4:7-11

<sup>7</sup> But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

<sup>8</sup> We are troubled on every side,  
yet not distressed; we are  
perplexed, but not in despair;

<sup>9</sup> Persecuted, but not forsaken;  
cast down, but not destroyed;



<sup>10</sup> Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

<sup>11</sup> For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.

62-1223 — The Reproach For  
The Cause Of The Word  
192 What a reproach to Mary!  
(As we're closing.) What a  
reproach to Mary and Joseph,  
for His Word!

It's Christmas time. I was planning on holding just a little bit, but you'll hear much of it on radio and among the pastors, and so forth.

What a reproach for Mary and Joseph, to hold to God's Word of promise! Remember, now. And the scorn, that lifted up eyebrow, when they seen little Mary go by, seeing Joseph.

“You are marrying a prostitute.” See? And remember, brother, adultery was death in them days. “Now, you keep her from getting killed.”

She is to be mother by you.”  
And, but, remember, all the  
time, God was dealing with  
them, and it was according to  
the Word. And they didn't know  
it. See?

193 “A virgin shall bear a child.” Joseph knowed that. Mary knowed that, because, after the Word was written, there was an Angel talking to them, vindicating,



or manifesting the very Word<sup>113</sup>  
that was written, that was  
going to happen. Don't dream  
now. Think. The Holy Spirit  
come down to the earth; never  
spoke to the whole  
congregation. He spoke to  
them.

62-1223 — The Reproach For  
The Cause Of The Word

213 And about that time, here  
come an old blind woman,  
winding her way around,  
staggering around through the  
audience.

And she come up to Him, and she also prophesied, for she was looking for Him. She told Mary,  
“A sword will pierce your  
heart, but It will reveal the  
thoughts of many hearts.”  
See? What was it?

215 Same thing today. “Sitting  
in Heavenly places in Christ  
Jesus, being lifted up by the  
Holy Spirit.” Sure. Yes, sir.

She Was Life-giver To  
Predestinated  
Children Of God

60-0925 — That Day On Calvary  
129 Now notice. The “greater”  
works, was to have the Power in  
the Church, not only to heal the  
sick by prayer, cast out devils by  
prayer,

but to impart Eternal Life to  
believers. The Holy Ghost was  
coming, and given into the  
hands of the Church, to impart  
Life. Oh!

That's what Calvary meant. It  
took stooped, degraded men  
and women, and lifted them  
into a place, to be sons and  
daughters of God, to heal the  
sick and to impart Eternal Life;



by giving the Holy Ghost to  
obedient believers, men who  
were once unbelievers, be  
made believers, and impart  
spiritual, Eternal Life.

130 How much greater is it: To say, “This sick woman laying here, I can pray a prayer of faith and she’ll be healed,” that’s a great thing, that’s what He was doing then;

“but,” said, “greater than this shall you do; I’m going to give you Power, not only to raise him up for a while, but to give him Eternal Life, which will be Eternal, forever.”

131 Poor, blind, wretched people, how do you miss that? Don't you see what the "greater" thing is? That's the greatest thing could ever happen, was to impart Eternal Life to people.

What is Eternal Life? The Life  
that He lived, the Life that was  
in Him, impart That to others.  
Can a man do that? A son of  
God can.

132 Jesus said, “Whose soever  
sins you remit, to them they  
are remitted; whose soever sin  
you retain, to them they are  
retained.”

## 59-1217 — What Was The Holy Ghost Given For?

31 That's the purpose of the Holy Ghost. It's the Father, again, God the Father dwelling in you, working out His plans, to finish His plan of redemption;

working through you, making  
you a co-worker with Him;  
giving you a place, giving you a  
part for your fallen, lost  
brother and sister;



giving you His Spirit and His  
love, to go hunt the lost, as He  
did in the garden of Eden.  
“Adam, Adam, where art  
thou?”

That's what the Holy Spirit  
does to a man or a woman.  
When It strikes into their heart  
and takes Its abode, there's a  
thirst and a hungering for lost  
souls.

She Brought Forth  
The Child In Time Of  
Great Distress

63-1216 — We Have Seen His<sup>132</sup>  
Star And Have Come To  
Worship Him

38 Now we find out, that the taxes, that this Herod said that all the people that were strayed from their birthplace, must return back.

That, he thought he was doing something great there, when he done this;

and not knowing that he was  
working exactly in harmony  
with Jehovah. How many of the  
priests probably cursed Herod  
at that time, in the Name of  
the Lord!

How many stood up, probably<sup>135</sup>  
secretly, and said, “Oh, this  
Roman, what a...If we could  
get a hold of him, we’d do  
so-and-so, and so,” not  
knowing it was working  
exactly according to God’s  
plan.

41 Now we notice then that on this great taxation, the king gave forth his rule, or his order, that all people would turn to their birthplace, regardless.



Now, it looks like a horrible  
thing, that poor little woman,  
in that place that she was in,  
heavy with child, and would  
have to take that long journey.  
Today, we would hardly think  
of taking her in an ambulance.

And she had to. If you was ever in Palestine, and see where she had to come through that rugged, granite boulders, up through there, on the back of a little mule.

No matter how bad it was, and how cruel it seemed, that was the king's orders, everybody must do it, young or old, prepared or not prepared, they had to do it, anyhow.

42 And sometimes we think  
that, our burdens. I might inject  
this right here, that, we think  
our burdens are so heavy  
sometimes, that there's nothing  
like it in the world. Do you know  
all those things are good for  
you?

They are all to mold you, make  
you. Prophets and sages was  
molded on the backside of the  
desert, in the hot, blazing sun,  
through tribulations and trials,  
and persecutions.

And these things that we have  
today, there's nothing  
happened to us that hasn't  
happened to other Christians,  
before.

Other Christians has had to  
stand in the hour of darkness  
like this, and even be fed to  
lions, for their testimony.

## 63-1229E — Look Away To Jesus

38 So now I am going to say something to you, now, that I haven't said all along.



And, that is, the thing that we have looked forward to for so long (for at least many years, four or five years, or maybe longer), the Third Pull, has now been vindicated, and I'm sure you all know what it is.

39 Now remember, there'll  
never be an impersonation of  
that, 'cause it can't be. See, it  
cannot be. Now it's in existent.  
And I have...I am warned of this,  
that soon...

Right at this time now it's just  
happened, so it could identify  
its presence among you, see,  
but it will not be used in a  
great way until this Council  
begins to tighten up.

And when it does, when that does...The Pentecostals, and so forth, can almost impersonate anything can be done.

But when that time comes,  
when the squeeze comes  
down, then you'll see, what  
you've seen temporarily, be  
manifested in the fullness of  
its power. See? See? See?  
See?

The Little Bride Will  
Fulfill All That Was  
Promised Through  
The Virgin

65-0801M — The God Of This  
Evil Age

167 But, in obedience, this  
little faith Woman, that lives  
by faith, the Bride; the person  
here, there;

here, off somewhere else,  
some other church, some  
other denomination,  
whatever it is, in some  
not...Believes the Word of  
God, obedient, waiting in love,  
for the promise of the age to  
be confirmed.



She is watching for it. She is  
part of that Word, and She is  
watching for Her life to  
manifest that Word.

## 65-0221M — Marriage And Divorce

259 He went right on revealing His Word to the Body, and vindicating Him, same, by Himself.

His children begin to kind of look more like Him, because It's fully maturing, or, they become children of the Word, not children of the church.

Children of the Word! And the  
Bride will be a lovely little Lady  
of the Word, unadulterated,  
not touched by any man's  
organization, any man-made  
theory.

She'll be purely unadulterated,  
Bride of the Word! Amen and  
amen! I hope you get that, out  
on the air. She will be the  
pregnated daughter of God.

62-0318 — The Spoken Word Is  
The Original Seed

355 Then from a little group of  
the true Seed of the Word, God  
will present Christ a beloved  
Bride, a Virgin, a Virgin of His  
Word.

And through them, and by  
them, will be fulfilled all that  
has been promised for His  
Word in the Virgin who knows  
no man-made creeds or dogmas.

356 The Word of promise in  
Himself, like It was in Mary, God  
Himself made manifest. He will  
act Himself, by His Own Word of  
promise, so to fulfill all that has  
been written of Him, as He did  
when He came from the virgin  
womb.



Type of the Spirit womb now,  
so will the Virgin now,  
accepting His Word, “Be it  
unto me as Thou has said.”  
Though it was said by an Angel,  
while it yet was the written  
Word, Isaiah 9:6.

Is It Still A Little  
Puzzling?

With The Shuck

157 Oh, Christian, oh, believer, if  
you've been a partial believer,  
keep on attending the meetings  
for just a little while (will you?),  
we got something here that I  
believe the Lord wants you to  
know. ....