

# THE IMPOSSIBLE PROMISE



Just like that. Out of nowhere. There he was. An angel. And **MARY** was **TERRIFIED!**

Maybe it was the suddenness of his arrival. Maybe it was the shock of the surprise. Maybe it was because he wasn't a 'fat baby with wings' but a **BRIGHT**, shiny, otherworldly creature sent down from the

throne of God. Or maybe it had to do with what he said: 'Hello, Favoured One!

God is with you.' Mary was simply a young woman from a little town called

**NAZARETH**, in the region of Galilee. She had never expected anything like this

to happen to her. What did the angel mean? What was this all about? She was confused

and troubled, to say the least. And the angel, Gabriel, understood that. 'Don't be afraid,'

he assured her. 'This is a good thing! God is **PLEASED** with you and wants to do something

**AMAZING** for you. So, here is what's going to happen:



you will give birth to a son and you will name him **JESUS**. He will be great. In fact, he

will be called the Son of God. God will give him the throne of his ancestor, **DAVID**.

He will put him in charge of everyone descended from Jacob. And his kingdom will last for ever! It was the **PROMISE!**

The promise to Eve of a child to crush the serpent's head. The promise to Abraham that, through his family, God would

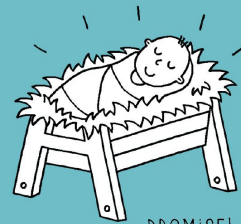
one day bless the world. The promise had **FINALLY** come true. And it sounded amazing. But Mary had a practical question. Very practical. By the customs of her day, she was

legally promised to be married to a man named **JOSEPH**, but there had been no

wedding, as yet. So she asked, quite rightly, 'I'm a virgin. How will I give birth to a son?' And, quite

rightly, Gabriel gave her an answer. A **MYSTERIOUS** answer guaranteed

to **SURPRISE** her even further:



**PROMISE!**

