

God of the Impossible

Luke 1:34-38

The angel Gabriel comes to Mary and says that she will bear God's Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. When Mary hears this news, she marvels (not doubts) at what God is going to do in her and through her. In the midst of her marveling, Gabriel says to her, "*Nothing is impossible with God.*" Think about this: There is 'not one thing,' 'nada,' 'nothing' that is impossible with Him. We must make a qualification: "*It is impossible for God to lie*" (Hebrews 6:18) tells us **God can do anything consistent with His character.** God can't lie, He can't change (James 1:17), He can't sleep (Ps. 121:2-3), He can't be unjust (Jer. 17:10), unloving, unfaithful, or do anything else that contradicts His character. Let's focus on in on this truth.

I. Everything in your life is supervised by a God who *cannot* fail in His good purposes.

Don't misunderstand. God does not cause evil, and He doesn't author evil things that happen to you. Neither does God ever call "good" that which is evil. John Piper wrongly says, "God's sovereignty ordains things to pass that from the human standpoint are willed as evil, and from God's standpoint *willed as absolutely good.*" Evil is never good, nor is good ever evil. But the Bible's clear teaching is that God "*orchestrates all things for your good*" (Rom. 8:28). God does not play the minor notes.

(A). Don't let any *personal obfuscation* negate faith in His *powerful orchestration*.

In other words, you might be at the point in your life where minor notes of pain and hurt are playing all around you. The fact that you can't hear, see, or even understand the Conductor's purpose does not mean that God is not making music for you. Take hold of His promise via faith.

(B). Don't let any *momentary grievous pain* void confidence in His *monumental good plan*.

This is a very hard teaching for some, but it is one that is found throughout the Bible. Joseph said – "*You thought evil against me; but God meant it for good*" (Gen. 50:20). God said – "*I set the boundaries (frame) of evil in order to make your ways and your doings good*" (Jer. 18:11). A.W. Pink always taught that "God either permits, promotes, or prohibits all things that occur."

II. Expect an internal mental and emotional battle with God until you can trust He really loves you.

When you know God never promotes harm, but is the gracious Balm of Gilead and the One who always and only promotes good in your life, then you can begin to trust Him in the painful times. Ruth was born a Moabite. She married a Jew. Her husband died. She left Moab to go to Bethlehem with Naomi. There, she gleaned in the fields of corn. Get in your mind her condition – *poor, insecure, dirty, helpless*. Yet, the Bible says, "*She happened to come to the field belonging to Boaz*" (Ruth 2:3). Ruth wouldn't have met Boaz and become the grandmother of King David *without* the gleaning pain. So it is with Mary. To become the mother of God's Son, she endured the shame of unwed pregnancy. Too many people look at their circumstances to determine God's love; maturity is looking at His Son.

III. Excitement for life comes when one understands with God nothing is impossible.

Zechariah said "How can I experience the birth of a son?" and was given muteness for his unbelief. Mary said almost the same thing, "How can this be since I am a virgin?" Yet, she is praised for faith. Zacharias saw God's promise as impossible. Mary saw it astonishing. What about you? J.C. Ryle says, "*There is no sin too black and bad to be pardoned. The blood of Christ cleanses from all sin. There is no heart too hard and wicked to be changed. The heart of stone can be made a heart of flesh. There is no work too hard for a believer to do. We may do all things through Christ strengthening us. There is no trial too hard to be borne. The grace of God is sufficient for us. There is no promise too great to be fulfilled. Christ's words shall never pass away, and what he has promised he is able to perform. There's no difficulty too great for a believer to overcome. When God's for us, who can be against us?*"