

# WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY



## The Annunciation

By JANE TEMPLETON



And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth.

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

And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that are highly favored, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.

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

And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.

And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt 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 he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. (Luke 1:26-33.)

This passage describing the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary of the coming of a son to her is one of the most beautiful and sacred in all the Bible. To the mystic and occultist it is also one of the most significant, for it foreshadows the ideal of attainment for all of humanity.

The angel indicates to Mary that her purity and chastity have caused her to find "favor with God," so that the great honor of becoming the mother of Jesus will be hers. An immaculate conception is to be hers, in no way inconsistent with her ideals and life of purity and chastity.

A highly spiritual ego can be born only to parents of a like nature, and therefore Mary, probably the highest initiate ever to have been born in a feminine body, was chosen to be the mother of the one who was to give over

his lower vehicles for the high mission of Christ's use during His three-year sojourn upon the earth. Both she and her husband, Joseph, were "virgin," or of such a high spiritual nature that they could generate a body without passion. Thus were they able to provide a pure and holy vehicle for the incoming ego, Jesus.

The mother of the New Age will find in Mary her perfect ideal. She will understand that the incoming ego forms its vehicles in accordance with archetypes in the higher realms, and that the archetypes have been fashioned by the actions of the ego in past lives. Negative forces of selfishness, greed, etc., create inharmonious patterns that are revealed in distorted bodies, while the constructive forces of love, helpfulness, etc., build health, strength, and grace. Only those egos who have lived along spiritual lines in past lives can come to her if she is herself of the spiritual type, and knowing this, she will direct her life along spiritual lines.

As is the case with all the incidents in the life of Jesus, the Annunciation, or announcement of the coming Christ Child, comes to every spiritual aspirant. After a certain period of spiritual effort, conscious or unconscious, he becomes aware of definite changes taking place within his vehicles. This is because he has, by love and service to others, attracted to himself a goodly quantity of the higher ethers and purified himself so that the vibratory rate of his entire being has become accelerated. To those on the conscious path this is a wondrous portent: the coming birth of the *Christ Within*.