

Elder Bobby Willis



“she was troubled”

There are many fears in life, some small and some great. How fearful Joseph (Matthew 1:19-20) and Mary must have been when the angel Gabriel appeared unto each of them with news they neither expected. When the angel came to Mary (Luke 1:29) it says **“she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.”**

How wonderful it is in our lives when we have fears and troubles to face, that we can hear the written word of God say unto us to **“fear not.”** With Mary the audible words were, **“Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God”** (vs. 30). Hearing the words of the angel, Mary still was not convinced or at peace in her mind for she replied, **“How shall this be...”** However, consoling words came forth into her heart, words that bring peace and comfort to our troubled souls as well - **“The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee...”**

Though the same power of the Holy Spirit overshadows us in the new birth, it also comes upon us in our deepest hour of need and calms our troubled souls when our fears are the greatest. This same peace came to Joseph when he needed it as he had learned that his espoused virgin Mary was already with child and he knew it was not of him.

If you are troubled this day, if during the coming days memories flood your being of loved ones you miss so much, if pain and affections of body are taking their toil upon you or your love ones; then take courage this day. The Holy Spirit of God can and does overshadow us in our time of need and brings peace and comfort to our weary souls. May this be your case as the days come and we face a New Year soon. Luke tells us in Luke 1:37 **“For with God nothing shall be impossible.”** When there seems to be no opportunity for peace, remember these words and find that joy in the midst of unrest.

God bless you and yours is our prayer.