

## A Portrait of Christian Humility

Luke 1:26-56

In Mary we see a portrait of authentic humility that should characterize the heart of every believer.

### Evidence of Mary's Humility:

- She was \_\_\_\_\_ by God's favor.
- She was inclined to \_\_\_\_\_ God.
- She was \_\_\_\_\_ by God's choice.
- She was willing to serve as a \_\_\_\_\_.
- She was \_\_\_\_\_ about her blessings.
- She was \_\_\_\_\_ for God's gifts.

### Discussion Questions:

- Because humility is something we know we need, we sometimes try to fake it. What are ways that you might try to appear humble?
- What temptations might Mary have faced as a result of God's favor? How might you be tempted by God's blessings? What about when God seems to bless others but *not* you? Do you feel entitled to God's blessing? Why is that against grace?
- Are you "perplexed" and surprised when God asks you to serve (v29)? Why should it perplex and surprise you? How will faith help you step forward?
- Have you ever been disappointed, even angry when you weren't asked to help? How is pride at the root of that? How does the gospel help uproot that pride?
- Do you see yourself as a "bondslave" (v38, 48), or are there jobs in the church you see as "below" you? What is the root of that attitude? How will gratitude help uproot that attitude?

# A Portrait of Christian Humility

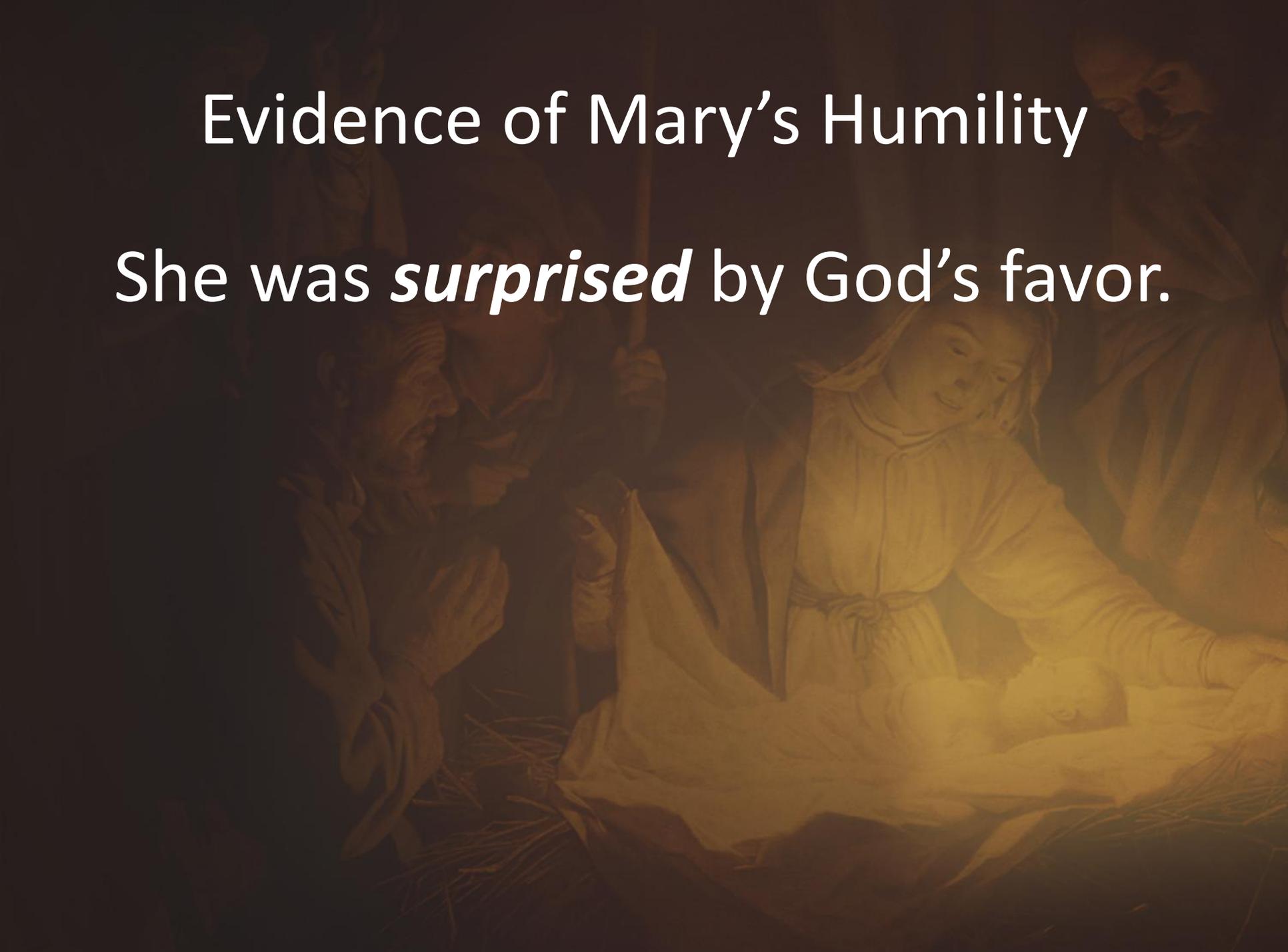
Luke 1:26-56

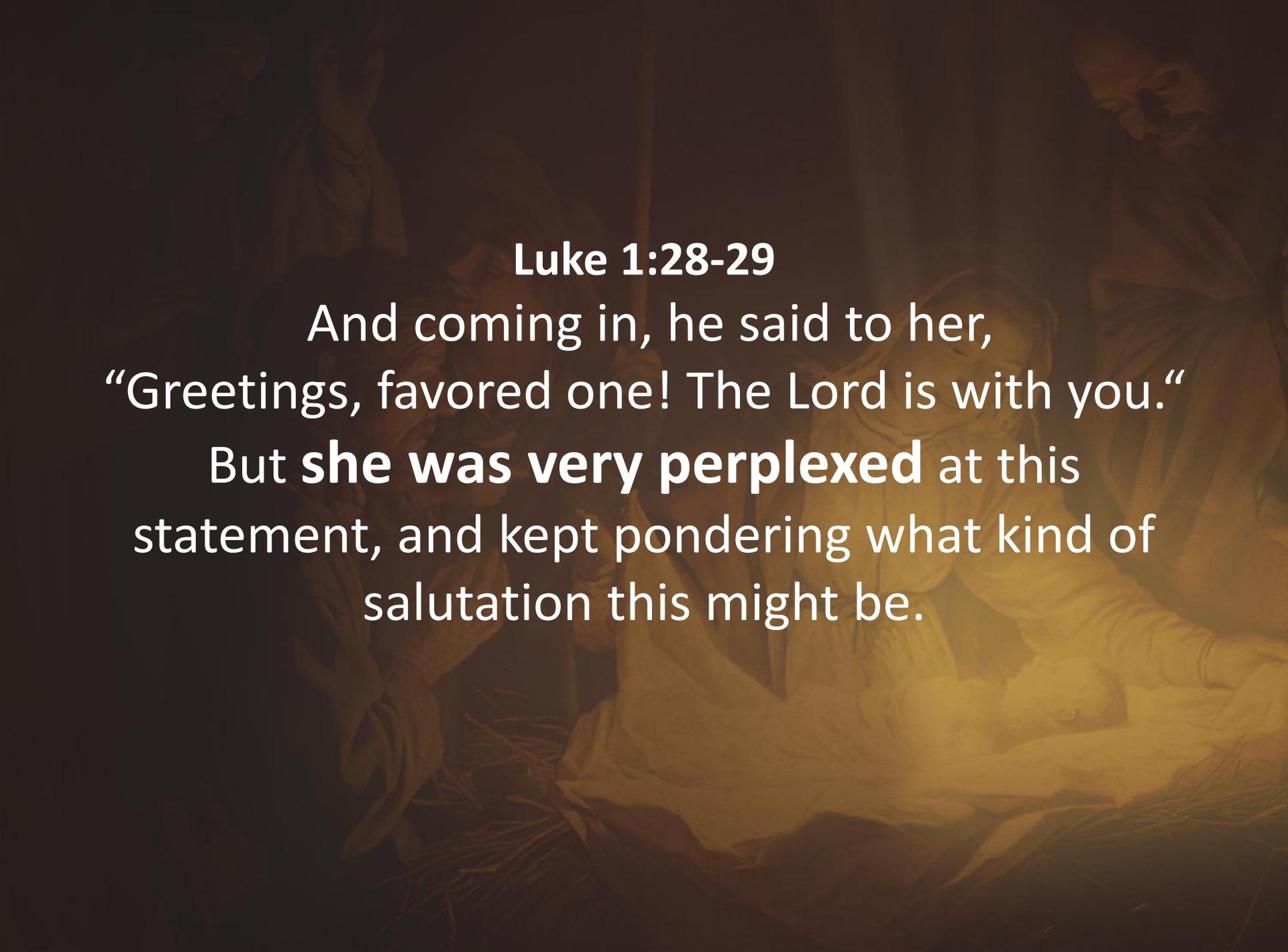


In Mary we see a portrait of authentic humility that should characterize the heart of every believer.

# Evidence of Mary's Humility

She was *surprised* by God's favor.

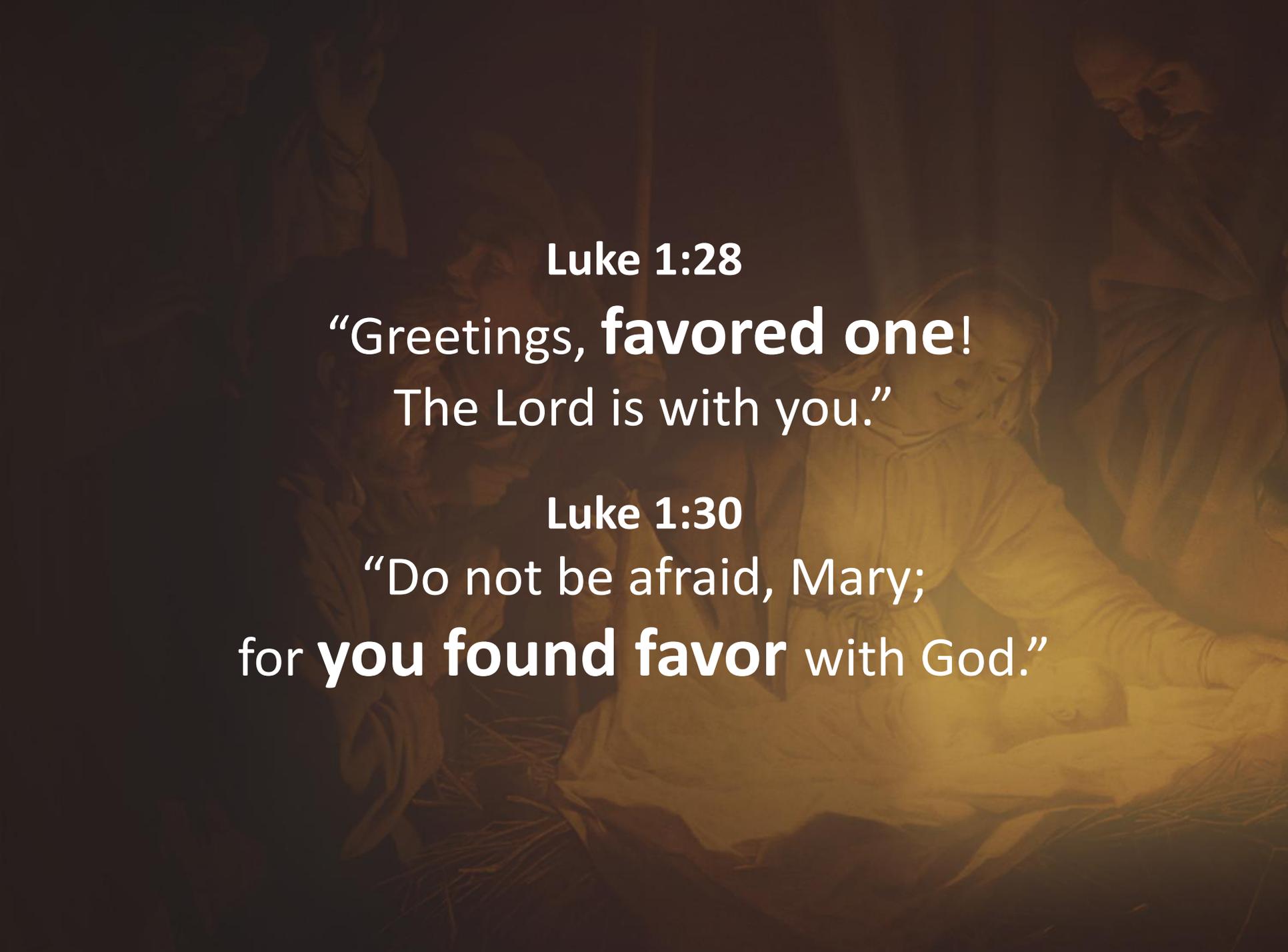




Luke 1:28-29

And coming in, he said to her,  
“Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.”

But **she was very perplexed** at this statement, and kept pondering what kind of salutation this might be.



Luke 1:28

“Greetings, **favored one!**  
The Lord is with you.”

Luke 1:30

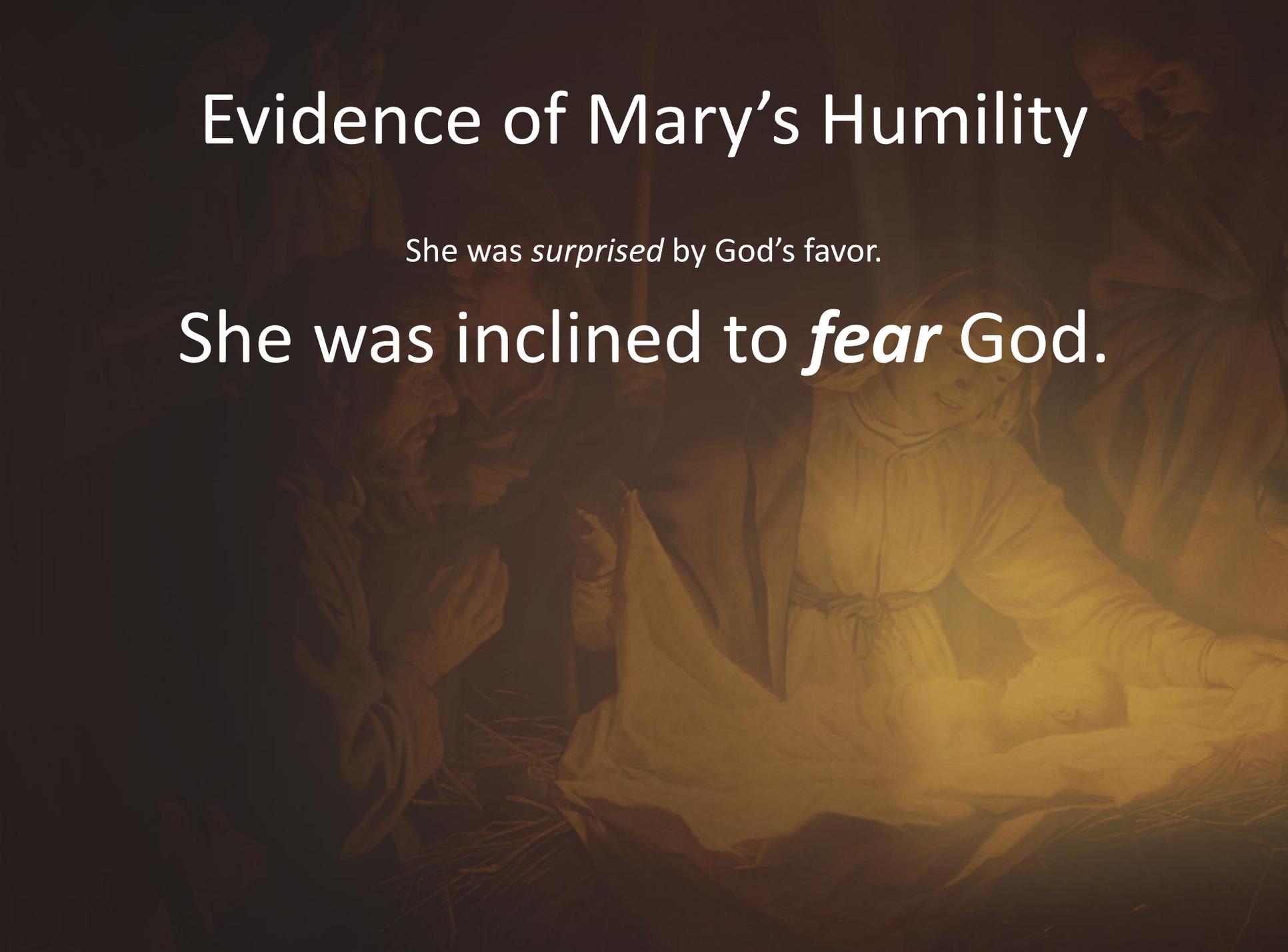
“Do not be afraid, Mary;  
for **you found favor** with God.”

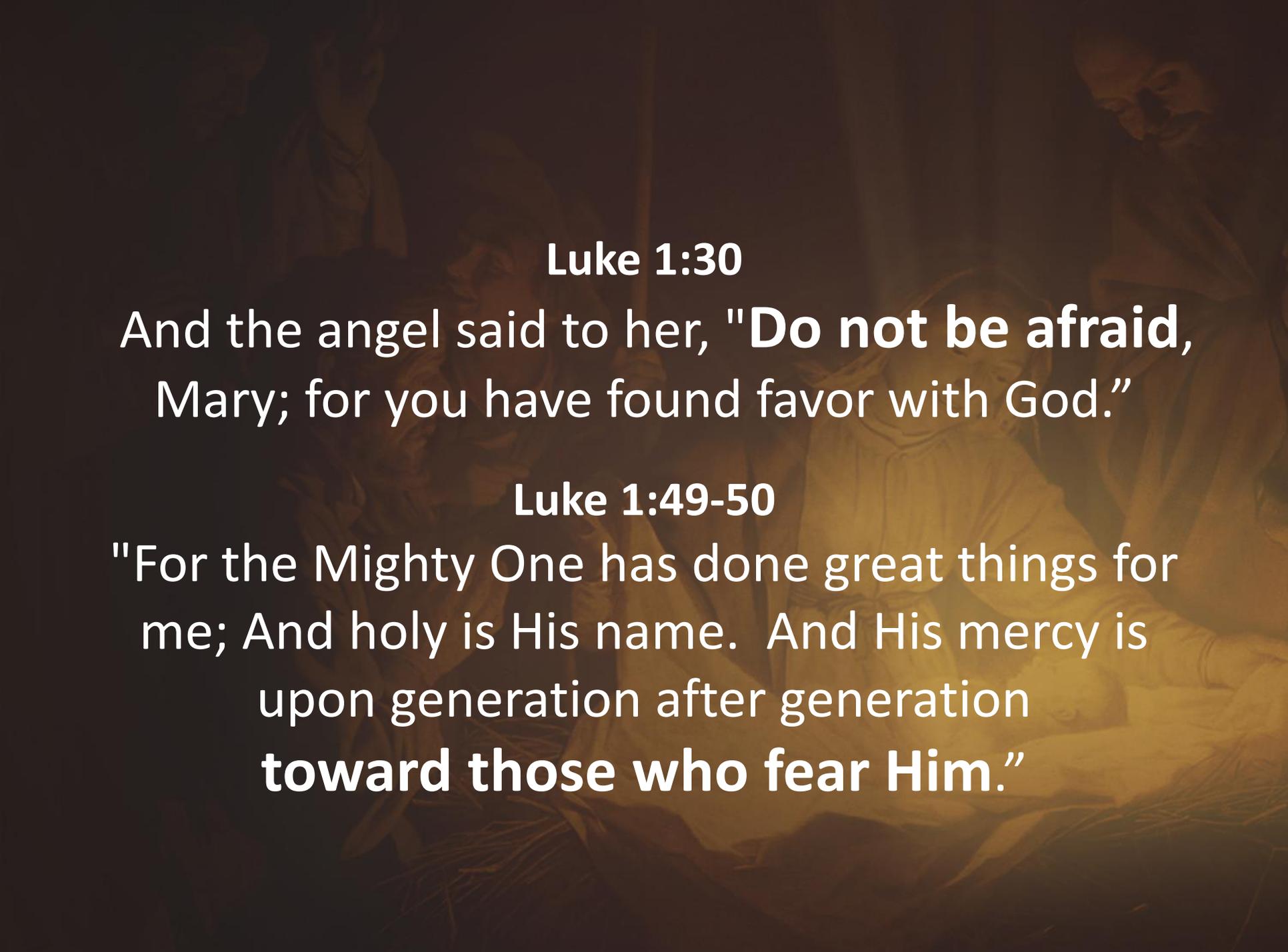
Are you expecting God's favor,  
or are you surprised by it?

# Evidence of Mary's Humility

She was *surprised* by God's favor.

She was inclined to *fear* God.





**Luke 1:30**

And the angel said to her, "**Do not be afraid,** Mary; for you have found favor with God."

**Luke 1:49-50**

"For the Mighty One has done great things for me; And holy is His name. And His mercy is upon generation after generation **toward those who fear Him.**"

*What was the content of  
Mary's fear?*

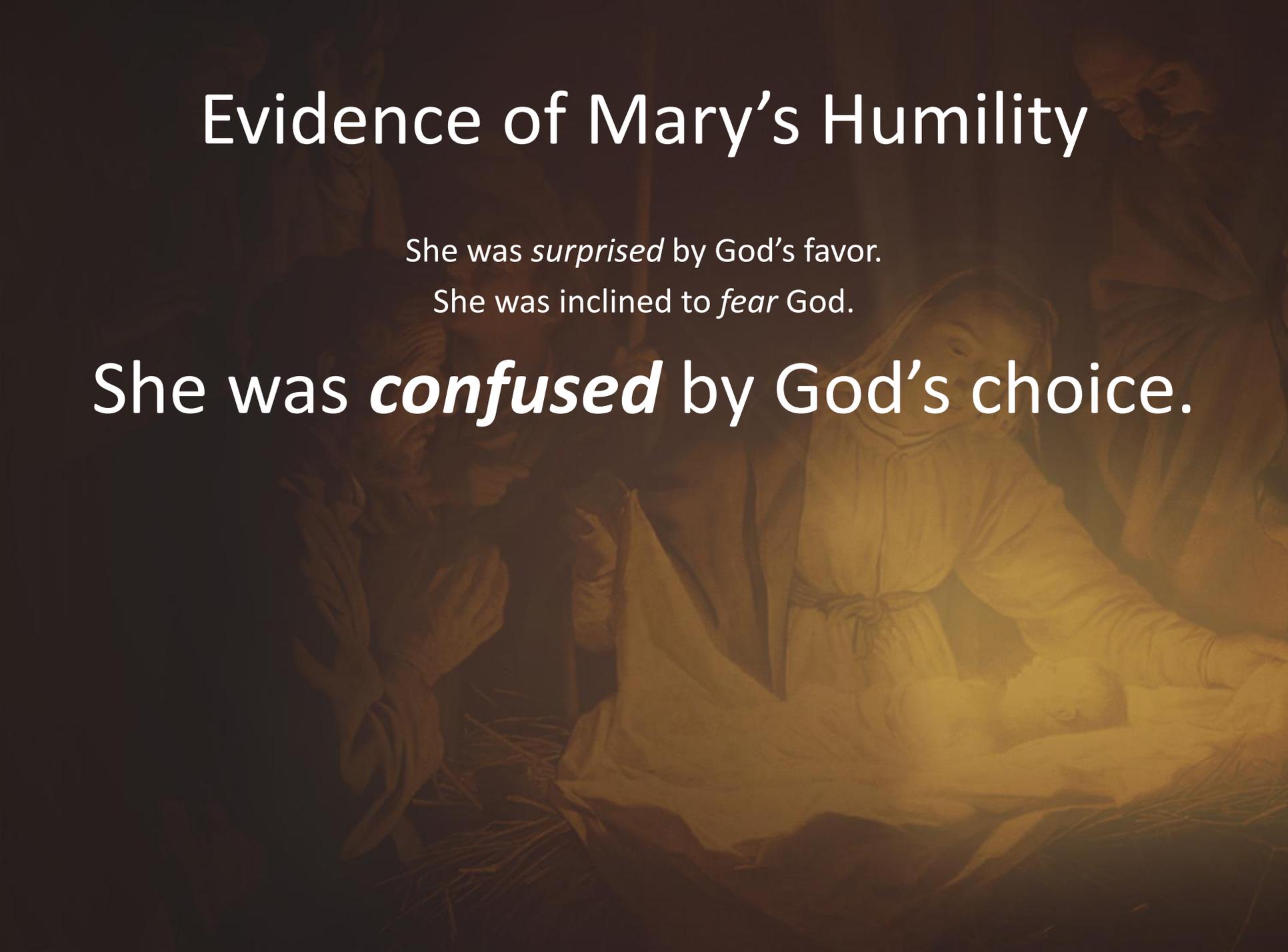
Do you still tremble a bit when  
asked to serve the Lord,  
or do you think to yourself,  
“I’ve got this”?

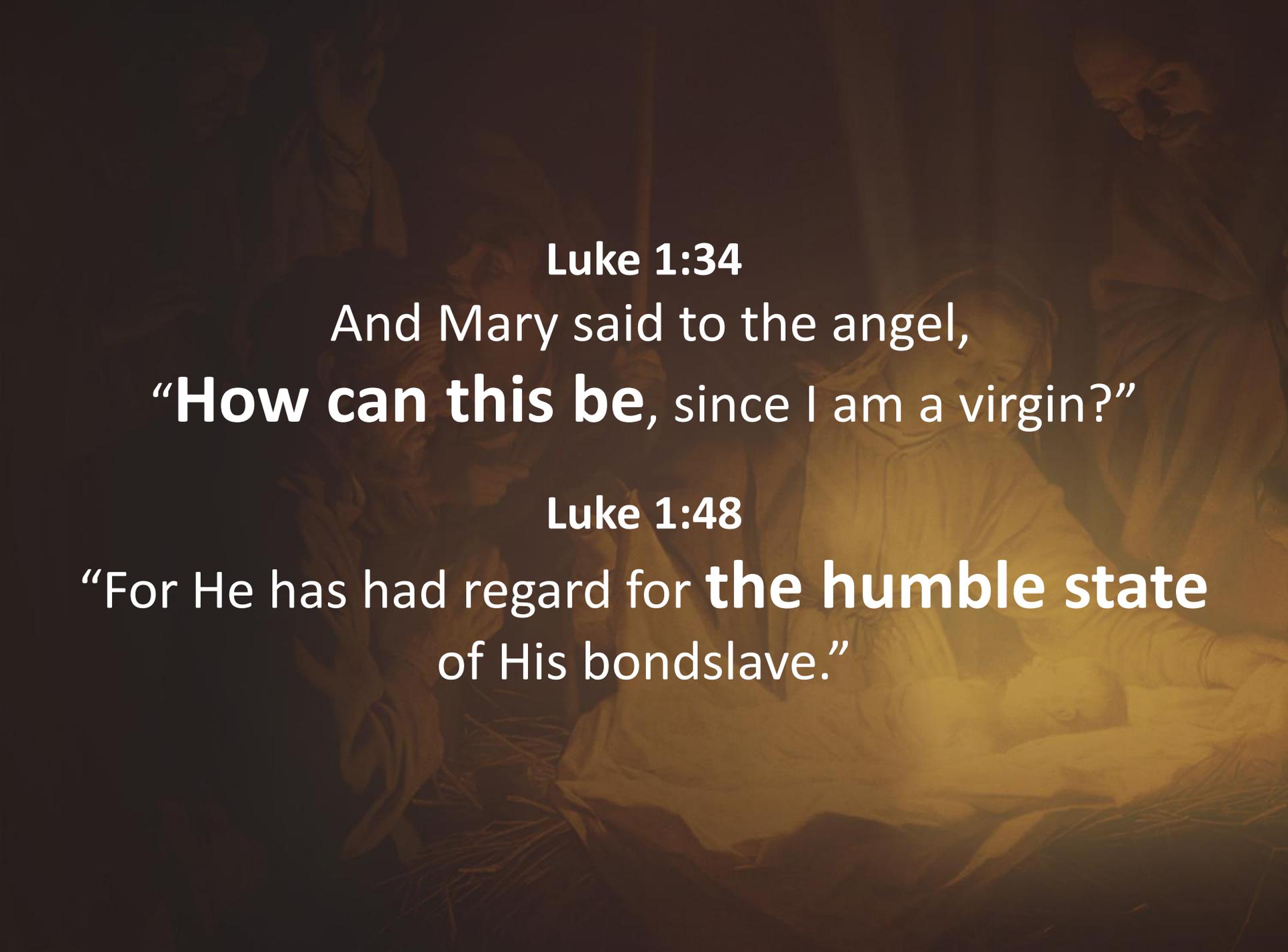
# Evidence of Mary's Humility

She was *surprised* by God's favor.

She was inclined to *fear* God.

She was ***confused*** by God's choice.





**Luke 1:34**

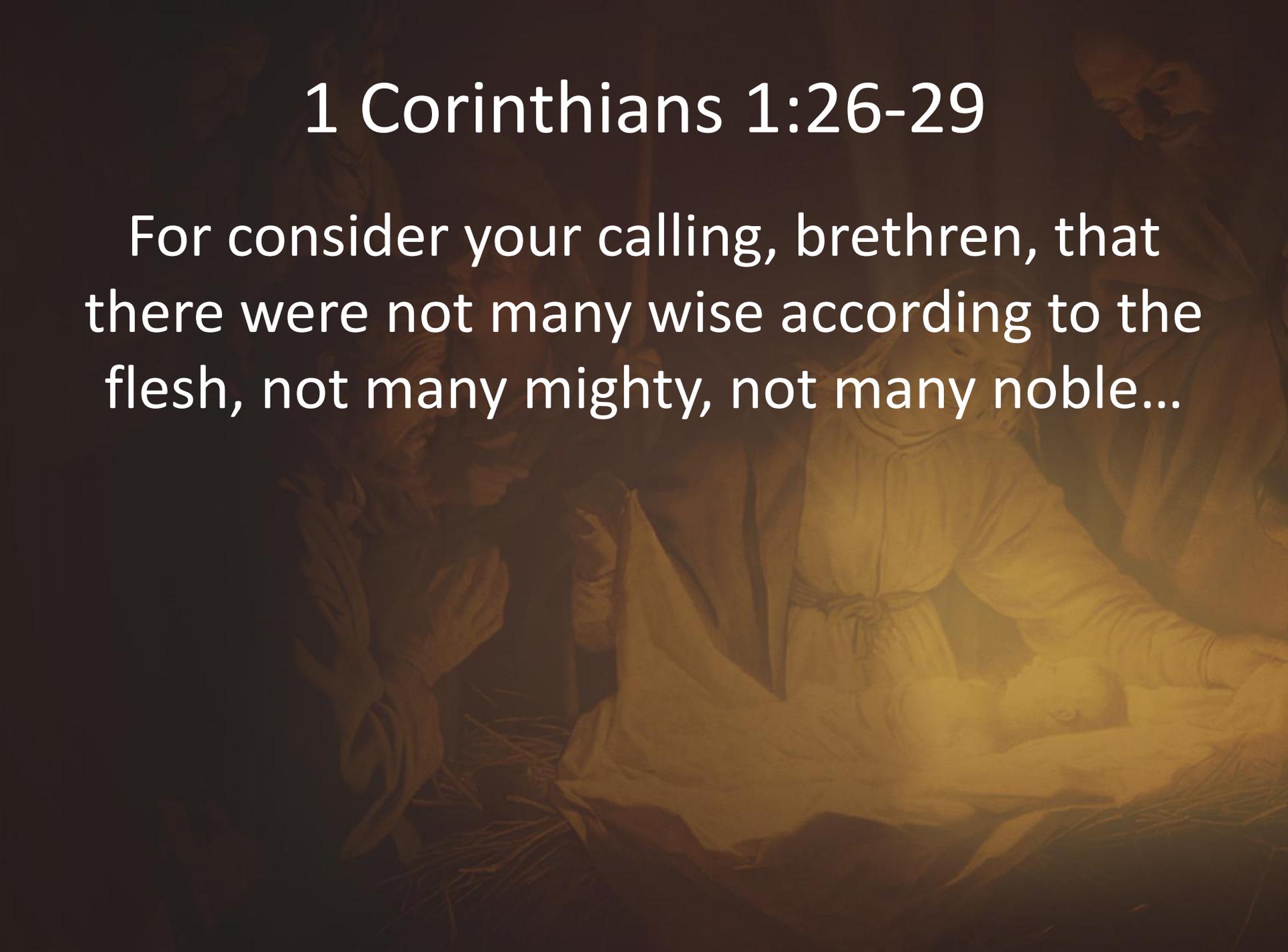
And Mary said to the angel,  
**“How can this be,** since I am a virgin?”

**Luke 1:48**

“For He has had regard for **the humble state**  
of His bonds slave.”

# 1 Corinthians 1:26-29

For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble...



# 1 Corinthians 1:26-29

...but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He might nullify the things that are, so that no man should boast before God.

Are you more confused when  
God doesn't choose to use you  
or when He does?

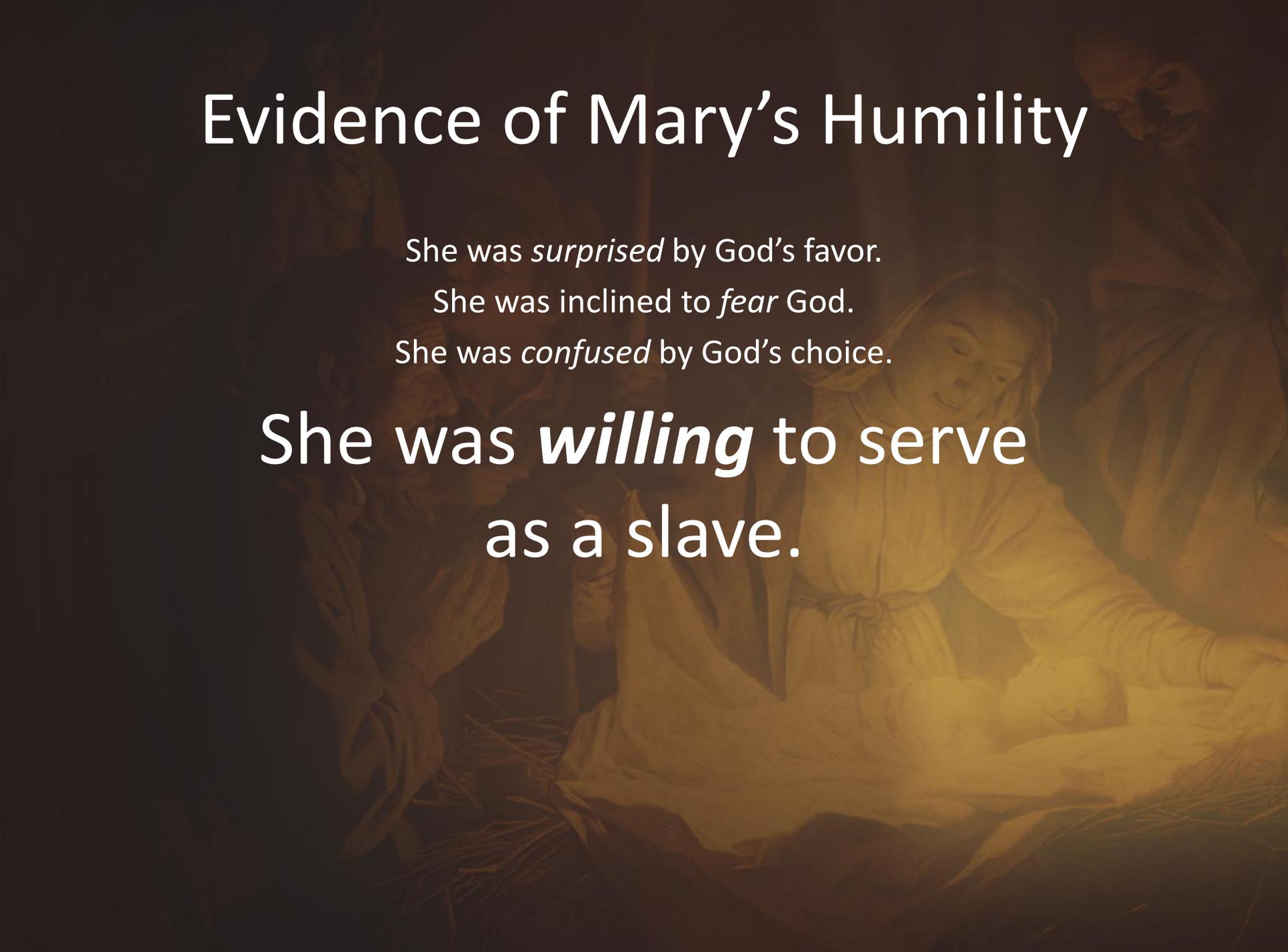
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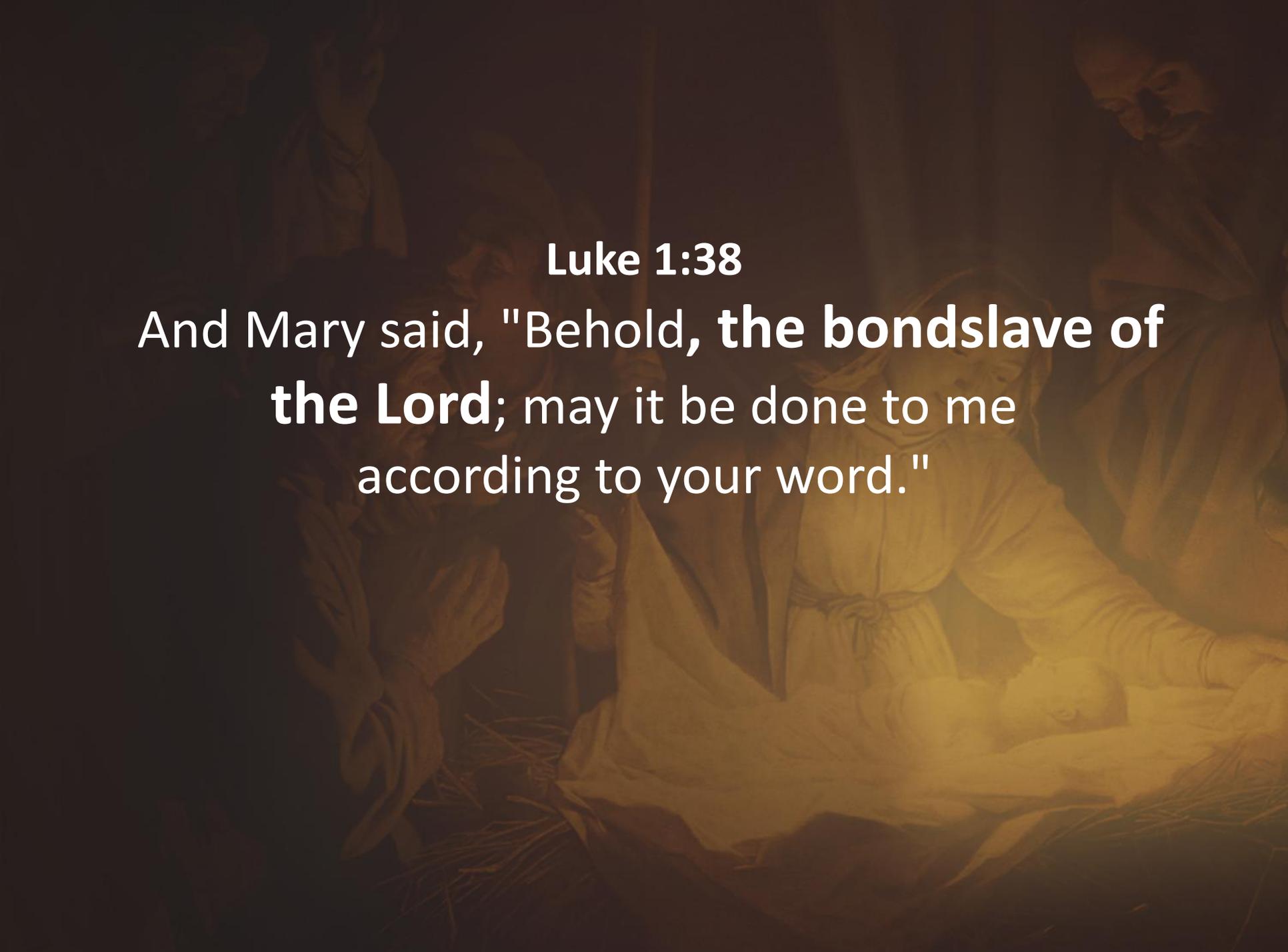
She was *surprised* by God's favor.

She was inclined to *fear* God.

She was *confused* by God's choice.

She was ***willing*** to serve  
as a slave.





Luke 1:38

And Mary said, "Behold, **the bonds slave of the Lord**; may it be done to me according to your word."

Are you truly honored to serve  
anywhere, or do you see some  
jobs as below you?

# Evidence of Mary's Humility

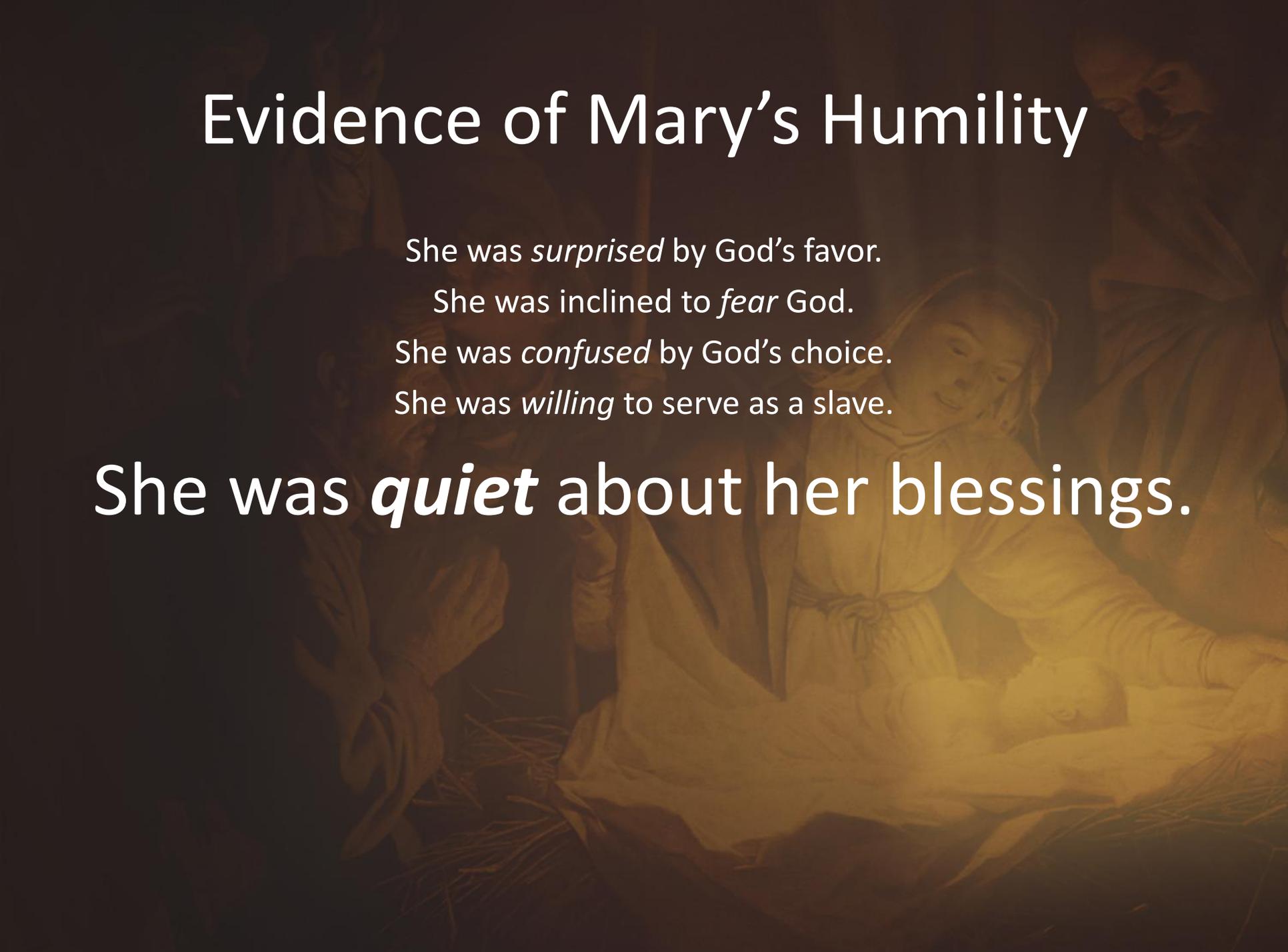
She was *surprised* by God's favor.

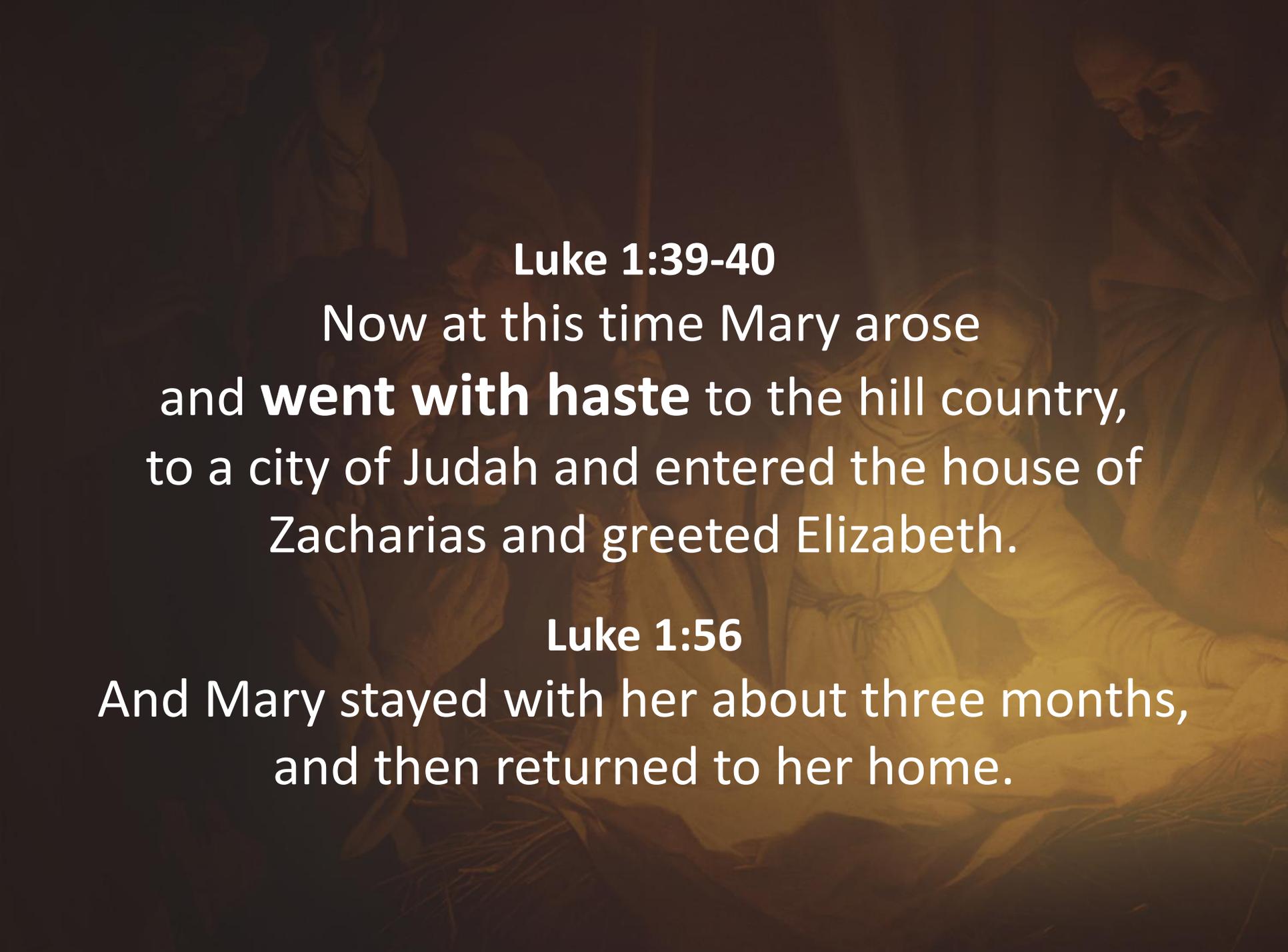
She was inclined to *fear* God.

She was *confused* by God's choice.

She was *willing* to serve as a slave.

She was ***quiet*** about her blessings.



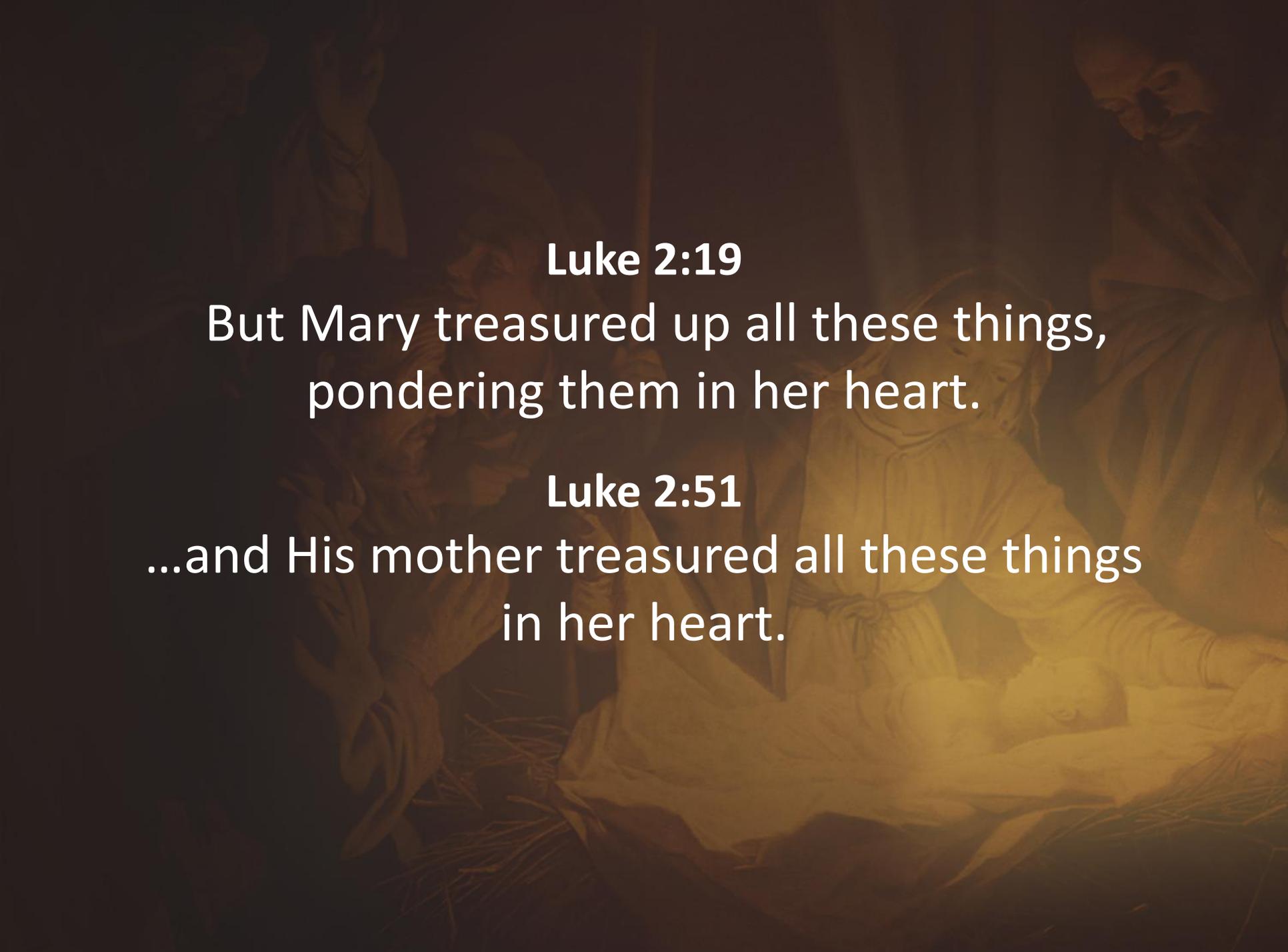


**Luke 1:39-40**

Now at this time Mary arose  
and **went with haste** to the hill country,  
to a city of Judah and entered the house of  
Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth.

**Luke 1:56**

And Mary stayed with her about three months,  
and then returned to her home.



**Luke 2:19**

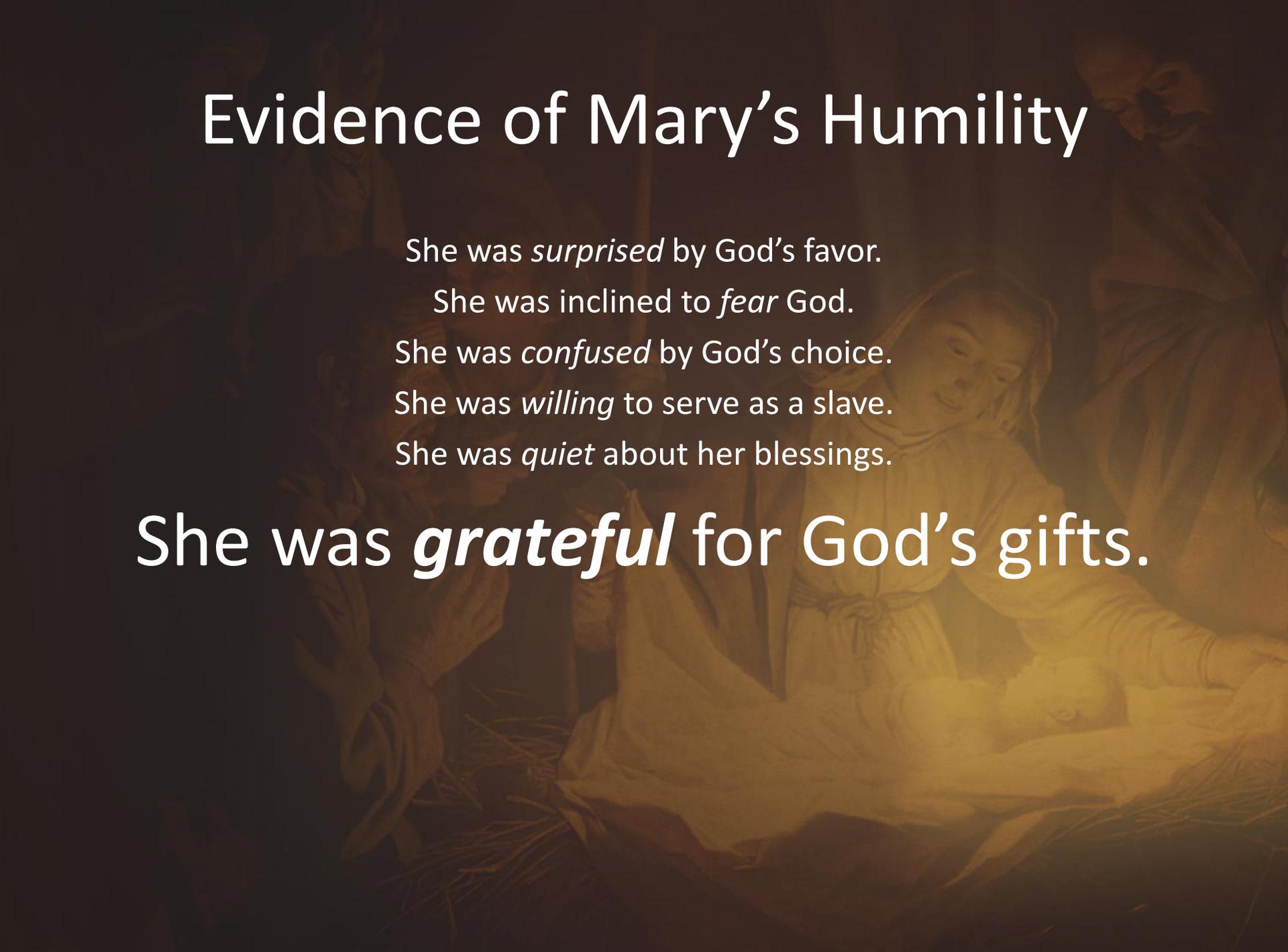
But Mary treasured up all these things,  
pondering them in her heart.

**Luke 2:51**

...and His mother treasured all these things  
in her heart.

Are you content to keep your  
usefulness to God quiet,  
or do you have your spiritual  
resume ready to go?

# Evidence of Mary's Humility



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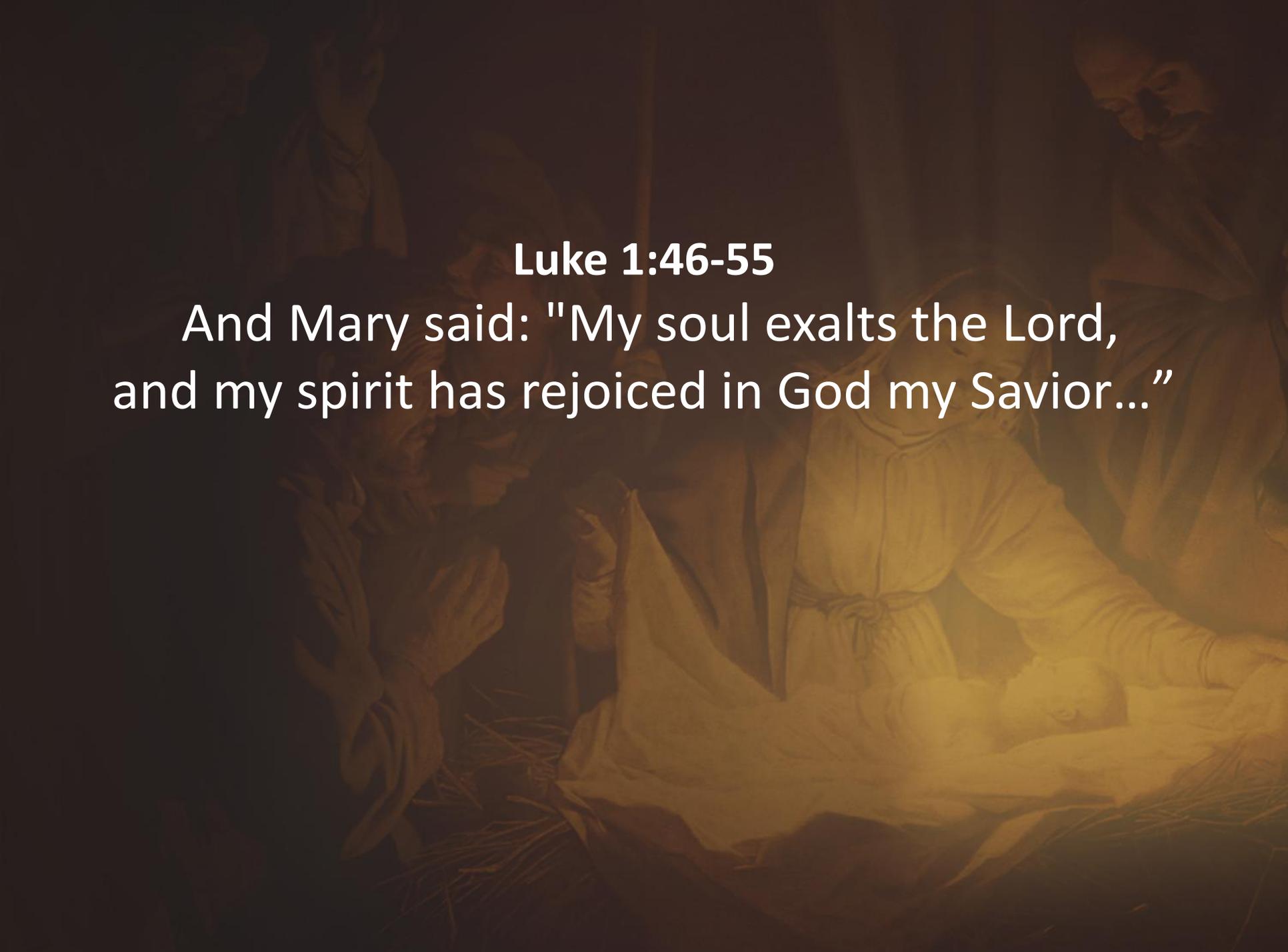
She was inclined to *fear* God.

She was *confused* by God's choice.

She was *willing* to serve as a slave.

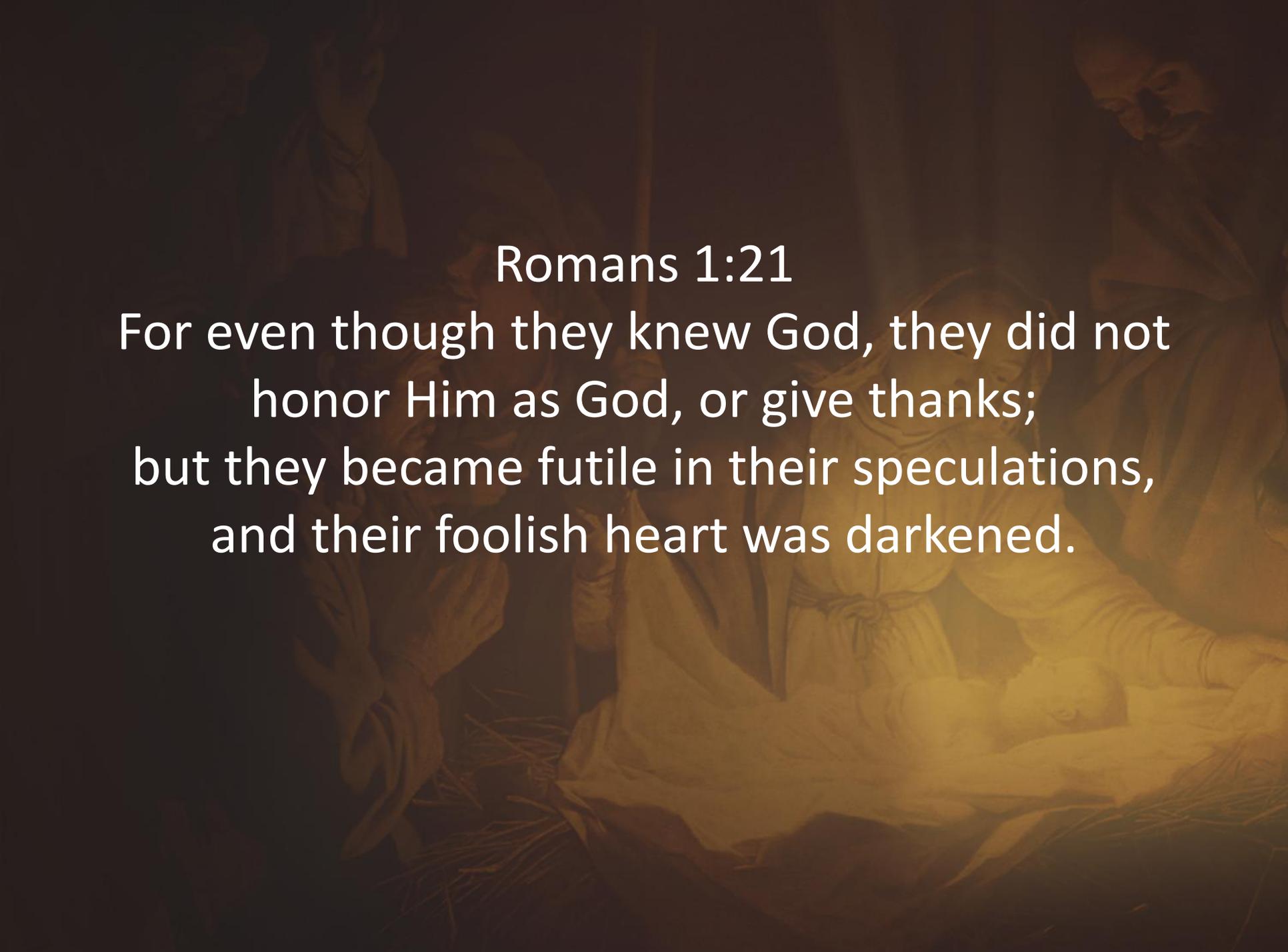
She was *quiet* about her blessings.

She was ***grateful*** for God's gifts.



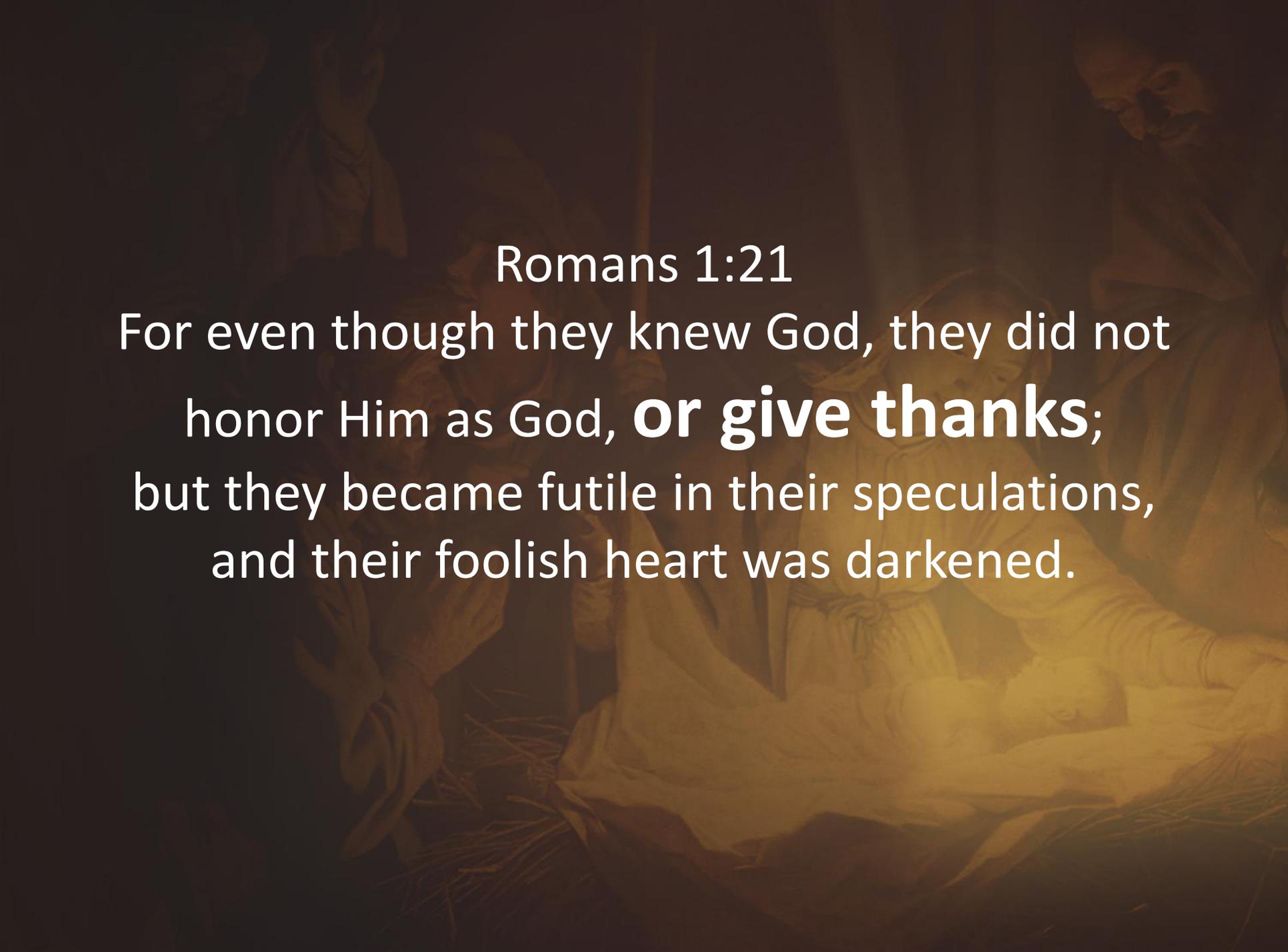
**Luke 1:46-55**

And Mary said: "My soul exalts the Lord,  
and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior..."



## Romans 1:21

For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks; but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.



Romans 1:21

For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, **or give thanks;** but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Are you living out of gospel  
gratitude, or have you allowed  
yourself to begin to feel  
entitled?

Mary's humility was a testament to her understanding of her position before God and an embrace of grace.

*How about you...*

*Have you embraced grace?*