**ANGEL OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST.**

**26.] in the sixth month—**referring to the  
“*five months*” in ver. 24.

**Nazareth]**  
In this particular the information of our  
Evangelist appears to be fuller than that of  
St. Matthew, who seems not to be aware of  
any residence at Nazareth previous to the  
birth of our Lord: but see note on Matt.  
ii. 22.

**27.] of the house of David**  
*refers to Joseph* in this place, who (see  
Matt. i.) was of the direct lineage of David.  
That *Mary was so,* is nowhere *expressed*  
in the Gospels, but seems to be implied in  
ver. 32, and has been the general belief  
of Christians. The Son of David was to  
be the fruit of *his body* (Ps. cxxxii. 11);  
which He would not be, unless His virgin  
mother was of the house of David.  
notes on the genealogy in ch. iii. Still,  
we must remember the absolute oneness  
in the marriage relation, which might  
occasion that Mary herself should be  
reckoned as being in very deed that which  
her husband was. Perhaps this has been  
hardly enough taken into account.

**28.] highly favored,** not “*full of grace,*”  
as the Vulgate:—the above is the meaning  
of the original word in the only other  
place where it occurs in the N.T., viz. Eph. Eph. i. 6 (“*made us accepted*” A.V.). It corresponds to “*thou hast found favor with God*,” ver. 30.

**32. his father David]** This announcement makes it almost certain (still see note above) that *Mary also* was house of David. No astonishment is expressed by her at this part of the statement and yet, from the nature of her question, it is clear that *she did not explain it supposing Joseph to be the  
destined of her child.* See 2 Sam.  
vii. 13: Ps. lxxxix, 3, 4: Isa. ix. 7: Jer.  
xxxiii. 15.

**34, 35.]** {34} This question differs from that raised by Zacharias above.  
It is merely an enquiry after the *manner  
in which* so wonderful a thing should take  
place; not, *how shall I know this?*—it  
*takes for granted that it shall be*, and only  
asks, *How?*

**{35} The Holy Ghost**—the  
creative Spirit of God, of whom it is said,  
Gen. i. 2, that He “*moved upon the face  
of the waters.*” But as the world was not  
created *by the Holy Ghost,* but *by the  
Son,* so also the Lord was not begotten *by  
the Holy Ghost,* but *by the Father;* and  
that, *before the worlds.* “No more is  
here to be attributed to the Spirit, than  
what is necessary to cause the Virgin to  
perform the actions of a mother.....