

# Luke 1:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings.

## Analysis

Gabriel's self-identification—"I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God"—establishes his authority as God's messenger. The perfect tense 'parestekos' (stand) indicates continuous standing in God's immediate presence, emphasizing his role as divine spokesman. Gabriel's mission 'to shew thee these glad tidings' reveals the gracious character of divine revelation—God condescends to inform His servants of His purposes. The rebuke implicit in Gabriel's response teaches that demanding signs when God has spoken clearly dishonors His word. God's word itself should be sufficient evidence.

## Historical Context

Gabriel ('strength of God') appears in Daniel's prophecies (Dan 8:16; 9:21) and here announces both John and Jesus's births. His role as messenger of crucial redemptive announcements underscores the significance of these events in salvation history.

## Related Passages

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. Why should God's word through His appointed messenger be sufficient without additional signs?
2. What does Gabriel's continuous standing in God's presence teach about angelic service?
3. How should we respond when God speaks clearly through His word?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ ἀποκριθεὶς ὁ ἄγγελος εἶπεν αὐτῷ Ἐγώ εἰμι  
And answering the angel said unto him I am  
G2532 G611 G3588 G32 G2036 G846 G1473 G1510

Γαβριὴλ ὁ παρεστηκὼς ἐνώπιον τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ  
Gabriel that stand in the presence of God And  
G1043 G3588 G3936 G1799 G3588 G2316 G2532

ἀπεστάλη λαλῆσαι πρὸς σὲ καὶ εὐαγγελίσασθαί σοι  
am sent to speak unto thee And glad tidings thee  
G649 G2980 G4314 G4571 G2532 G2097 G4671

ταῦτα.

these  
G5023

## Additional Cross-References

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**Luke 1:26** (References God): And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,

**Matthew 18:10** (Parallel theme): Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.

**Daniel 8:16** (Parallel theme): And I heard a man's voice between the banks of Ulai, which called, and said, Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision.

