

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE



*glimpses
of glory*

MESSAGE: NATHAN BAIRD

MUSIC: SHAWN HOELSCH

DATE: DECEMBER 18, 2022

John's Birth Renews Covenant Expectations for the Promised King Luke 1:59-80

As promised, John's birth results in public rejoicing. (vv. 57-58)

Luke 1:57 Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. **58** And her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

Luke 1:14 And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth,

Zechariah's obedience fulfills the angel's words to the glory of God. (vv. 59-65)

Luke 1:59 And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child. And they would have called him Zechariah after his father, **60** but his mother answered, "No; he shall be called John." **61** And they said to her, "None of your relatives is called by this name." **62** And they made signs to his father, inquiring what he wanted him to be called. **63** And he asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And they all wondered. **64** And immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God. **65** And fear came on all their neighbors.

News of these events produces amazed speculation of John's future role. (vv. 65-66)

Luke 1:65b And all these things were talked about through all the hill country of Judea, **66** and all who heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, "What then will this child be?" For the hand of the Lord was with him.

Zechariah's prophecy identifies the expected King and clarifies John's preparing role. (vv. 67-79)

Luke 1:67 And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying, **68** "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel..."

1. Jesus' conception initiates the final phase of God's promises to David & Abraham.

The promise of...

...a personal arrival and redemption.

68b for he has visited and redeemed his people

...a national rescue.

69 and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, 70 as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, 71 that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us;

...a renewed service to God.

72 to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, 73 the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us 74 that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, 75 in holiness and righteousness before

2. John will herald the coming of God's own bright presence to guide his people.

Luke 1:76 And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, 77 to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins, 78 because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high 79 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

Luke 1:80 And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

Reflection & Discussion

1. Take time to look up the text of the 3 covenants in the sidebar. In Christ you are the beneficiary of these covenants. Is this reality producing joy in your life?
2. Zechariah's previous grief and disappointment were eclipsed by the joy brought from God's promises being fulfilled. Identify one obstacle that overshadows the riches that are yours in Christ. Which of Christ's promises directly address this obstacle?

The New Covenant under Jesus fulfills and concludes the covenants given to Abraham and David.

1) Abrahamic Covenant (Lk. 1:67-71) - Gen.12:1-3, 22:17-18

2) Davidic Covenant (Lk. 1:72-75) - 2 Sam. 7:7; Dan. 7

3) New Covenant (Lk. 1:75-79) - Jer. 31; Heb. 8

SONGS

"O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL" - John Francis Wade, Frederick Oakeley

"JOY TO THE WORLD" - Isaac Watts

"GREAT ARE YOU LORD" - David Leonard, Jason Ingram, Leslie Jordan

"LIGHT OF THE WORLD" - Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, and Scott Cash

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 62,225.09
WEEKLY NEED: \$ 36,093.00

Y-T-D GIVING: \$1,740,599.77
Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$1,804,650.00

ALTAMONT CAMPUS
EXPANSION FUND: \$ 17,825.00