

## The Benedictus: Zacharias Prophecies

Luke 1:57-80

Presented by Bob DeWaay  
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
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## The Birth of John the Baptist

- **Luke 1:57**  
Now the time had come for Elizabeth to give birth, and she brought forth a son.
- **Luke 1:13**  
But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your petition has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will give him the name John."

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## Gabriel's Words are Fulfilled

- **Luke 1:58**  
And her neighbors and her relatives heard that the Lord had displayed His great mercy toward her; and they were rejoicing with her.
- **Luke 1:14**  
"And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth."

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## God is At Work in Their Covenant Obedience

### ■ Luke 1:59, 60

And it came about that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to call him Zacharias, after his father. And his mother answered and said, "No indeed; but he shall be called John."

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## Zacharias Still Could Not Speak

### ■ Luke 1:61, 62

And they said to her, "There is no one among your relatives who is called by that name." And they made signs to his father, as to what he wanted him called.

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## Zacharias Confirms the Name John and Regains His Speech

### ■ Luke 1:63, 64

And he asked for a tablet, and wrote as follows, "His name is John." And they were all astonished. And at once his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he began to speak in praise of God.

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## They Know this is Supernatural

### ■ Luke 1:65, 66

And fear came on all those living around them; and all these matters were being talked about in all the hill country of Judea. And all who heard them kept them in mind, saying, "What then will this child turn out to be?" For the hand of the Lord was certainly with him.

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## Holy Spirit Filled Zacharias Prophesies of Messianic Salvation

### ■ Luke 1:67, 68

And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying:  
"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, For He has visited us and accomplished redemption for His people,"

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## Theme: Divine Visitation

### ■ Luke 1:68

### ■ Luke 1:78

### ■ Luke 19:44

### ■ Acts 15:14 (same word in Greek)

"Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name." (KJV)

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### Theme: Divine Visitation

#### ■ **Psalm 106:4**

Remember me, O Lord, in Your favor toward  
Your people; Visit me with Your salvation,

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### Jesus is the Horn of Salvation

#### ■ **Luke 1:69, 70**

And has raised up a horn of salvation for us  
In the house of David His servant-- As He  
spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets  
from of old

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### The Horn of Salvation Promised David

#### ■ **Psalm 132:16, 17**

"Her [Zion's] priests also I will clothe with  
salvation; And her godly ones will sing aloud  
for joy. There I will cause the horn of David  
to spring forth; I have prepared a lamp for  
Mine anointed."

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## Promises to the Patriarchs are Still Valid

### ■ Luke 1:71 - 73

Salvation from our enemies, And from the  
hand of all who hate us; To show mercy  
toward our fathers, And to remember His  
holy covenant, The oath which He swore to  
Abraham our father,

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## Allusion to Exodus

### ■ Luke 1:74, 75

To grant us that we, being delivered from  
the hand of our enemies, Might serve Him  
without fear, In holiness and  
righteousness before Him all our days.

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## Fulfillment of Prophecy

### ■ Luke 1:76

"And you, child, will be called the prophet of  
the Most High; For you will go on before the  
Lord to prepare His ways;"

### ■ Isaiah 40:3

A voice is calling, "Clear the way for the Lord  
in the wilderness; Make smooth in the desert  
a highway for our God."

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## God's Mercy Brings Forgiveness of Sins

### ■ Luke 1:77, 78

To give to His people the knowledge of  
salvation By the forgiveness of their sins,  
Because of the tender mercy of our God,  
With which the Sunrise from on high shall  
visit us,

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## Through Christ, the Light of God Shines Upon Those in Darkness

### ■ Luke 1:79

"To shine upon those who sit in darkness  
and the shadow of death, To guide our feet  
into the way of peace."

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## Paul Carries on Christ's Ministry

### ■ Acts 26:16, 17

"But arise, and stand on your feet; for this  
purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint  
you a minister and a witness not only to the  
things which you have seen, but also to the  
things in which I will appear to you;  
delivering you from the Jewish people and  
from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending  
you,"

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## Paul Carries on Christ's Ministry

### ■ Acts 26:18

"to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, in order that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me."

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## "Deserts" is Another Allusion to Isaiah 40:3

### ■ Luke 1:80

And the child continued to grow, and to become strong in spirit, and he lived in the deserts until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

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## Applications

- Finding Forgiveness of Sins
- Going From Darkness to Light

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## Forgiveness of Sins

- **Luke 3:3** (John the Baptist)

And he came into all the district around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins;

- **Luke 5:32** (Jesus)

I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.

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## Forgiveness of Sins

- **Luke 24:47** (The Disciples)

and that repentance for forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

- **ACT 2:38** (Peter)

And Peter said to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

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## Forgiveness of Sins

- **Acts 10:43, 44** (Peter)

"Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins." While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message.

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## Going From Darkness to Light

### ■ Psalm 107:10, 11

There were those who dwelt in darkness  
and in the shadow of death, Prisoners in  
misery and chains, Because they had  
rebelled against the words of God, And  
spurned the counsel of the Most High..

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## Going From Darkness to Light

### ■ Psalm 107:12, 13

Therefore He humbled their heart with  
labor; They stumbled and there was none  
to help. Then they cried out to the Lord in  
their trouble; He saved them out of their  
distresses.

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## Going From Darkness to Light

### ■ Psalm 107:14, 15

He brought them out of darkness and the  
shadow of death, And broke their bands  
apart. Let them give thanks to the Lord for  
His lovingkindness, And for His wonders to  
the sons of men!

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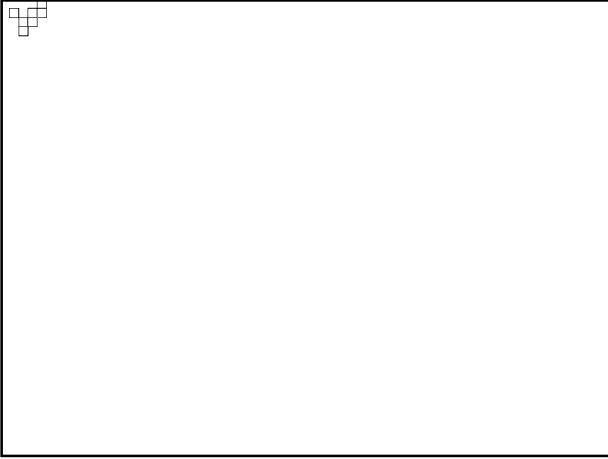
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