

## QUESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL STUDY

1. Tell your story. Describe a time when you received an announcement that seemed too good to be true. Did you believe it?
  
2. Zacharias and Elizabeth were godly people. Why does God allow difficulty in the lives of people who faithfully serve God?
  
3. Read the following passages and note what the Bible says about the activity of angels:
  - a) Psalm 34:7
  - b) Psalm 91:11
  - c) Psalm 148:1-2
  - d) Matthew 18:10
  - e) Acts 27:23-24
  - f) Hebrews 1:14
  - g) Hebrews 13:2
  
4. What was the evidence given to Zacharias that Gabriel's announcement was trustworthy?
  
5. What practical application are you going to make from this week's message? (*Share your decision with another person.*)
  - I am going to encourage another believer who has been experiencing discouragement lately.
  - I am going to read the book, "Angels" by Billy Graham, gain a better understanding of what the Scripture teaches about angels.
  - I am going to memorize Psalm 34:7.

Cornerstone Church  
Luke 1:5-25

November 6, 2022  
Study Series #002

## ***The Announcement of John's Birth***

### **I. Introduction**

#### A. A Medical Miracle

#### B. A Biblical Miracle

(See Genesis 11:30; Genesis 25:21; Genesis 29:31;  
Judges 13:2; I Samuel 1:5; Luke 1:5-7; Luke 1:17)

### **II. The Birth of John the Baptist**

#### A. The Time of John

(See Luke 1:5; Matthew 2:1-22; Psalm 83:1-6; Matthew 22:16;  
Mark 3:6; Mark 12:13; Matthew 2:16-18)

- Herod the Great (37 B.C. – 4 B.C.)
  - ✓ Tried to kill the infant Jesus (Matthew 2:1-16)
- Herod, Archelaus (4 B.C. – A.D. 6)
  - ✓ Joseph returned to Nazareth instead of Bethlehem because of him (Matthew 2:21-23)
- Herod Antipas (4 B.C. – A.D. 6)
  - ✓ Killed John the Baptist (Matthew 14:1-12)
- Herod Philip, the Tetrarch (4 B.C. – A.D. 34)
  - ✓ Ruled area north and east of Galilee (Luke 3:1)
- Herod Agrippa I (A.D. 37 – 44)
  - ✓ Eaten by worms (Acts 12:20-23)
- Herod Agrippa II (A.D. 50 – c. A.D. 93)
  - ✓ Trial of Paul in Caesarea (Acts 25-26)

## B. The Parents of John

(See Luke 1:5-7; Numbers 18:7; I Chronicles 24:4-19; Leviticus 21:7,14; Ezekiel 44:22; I Chronicles 29:28; Leviticus 19:32; Proverbs 16:31; Genesis 18:11; Genesis 24:1)

## C. The Appearance of the Angel

(See Luke 1:8-12; Proverbs 16:33)

## D. The Announcement Concerning John

(See Luke 1:13-17; Malachi 4:5-6)

## E. The Doubt Concern the Announcement

(See Luke 1:18-23; Luke 1:62-63)

## F. The Confirmation Concerning John

(See Luke 1:24-25; Genesis 30:23)

## III. Conclusion

If you would like to know more about what it means to be a Christian, or if you would like to talk with someone or have someone pray for you, please contact the church office and the pastor will contact you.

## Passage of Study

Luke 1:5-25

<sup>5</sup>In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah; and he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. <sup>6</sup>They were both righteous in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord. <sup>7</sup>But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both advanced in years.

<sup>8</sup>Now it happened *that* while he was performing his priestly service before God in the *appointed* order of his division, <sup>9</sup>according to the custom of the priestly office, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. <sup>10</sup>And the whole multitude of the people were in prayer outside at the hour of the incense offering. <sup>11</sup>And an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the altar of incense. <sup>12</sup>Zacharias was troubled when he saw *the angel*, and fear gripped him. <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. <sup>15</sup>For he will be great in the sight of the Lord; and he will drink no wine or liquor, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit while yet in his mother’s womb. <sup>16</sup>And he will turn many of the sons of Israel back to the Lord their God. <sup>17</sup>It is he who will go *as a forerunner* before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers back to the children, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous, so as to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

<sup>18</sup>Zacharias said to the angel, “How will I know this *for certain*? For I am an old man and my wife is advanced in years.” <sup>19</sup>The angel answered and said to him, “I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. <sup>20</sup>And behold, you shall be silent and unable to speak until the day when these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their proper time.”

<sup>21</sup>The people were waiting for Zacharias, and were wondering at his delay in the temple. <sup>22</sup>But when he came out, he was unable to speak to them; and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple; and he kept making signs to them, and remained mute. <sup>23</sup>When the days of his priestly service were ended, he went back home.

<sup>24</sup>After these days Elizabeth his wife became pregnant, and she kept herself in seclusion for five months, saying, <sup>25</sup>“This is the way the Lord has dealt with me in the days when He looked *with favor* upon *me*, to take away my disgrace among men.”

All quotations are taken from the New American Standard unless otherwise noted. NASB. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers 1995. A free PDF of this note sheet is available: [www.cssbchurch.org/sermons-2](http://www.cssbchurch.org/sermons-2). © 2022.