

## The Birth Of John The Baptist

Luke 1:57-80

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Intro. **A.** Mary, a virgin in Israel, was a cousin to Elisabeth. <sup>she</sup> went to a city, in the hill country".

1. She went to see her cousin, Elisabeth.
2. There were some unusual happenings when they greeted one another.
3. The babe leaped in the womb of Elisabeth.
4. Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

**B.** Mary and Elisabeth both praised the Lord.

1. Mary magnified the Lord.
2. Elisabeth pronounced blessings upon Mary.
3. Mary stayed with her about three months.

### I. The Birth Of John The Baptist.

**A.** Soon after Mary returned home, the child was born to Elisabeth.

Vs. 57 1. The child was full term.

Vs. 58 2. Her neighbors and cousins rejoiced.

3. Remember, this is a child past her time.

4. God had shown great mercy.

**B.** The name controversy.

Vs. 59a 1. It occurred at John's circumcision.

Vs. 59b 2. They called him Zacharias.

Vs. 60 3. Elisabeth knew God's will. She did not yield to the moment or to her emotions.

Vs. 61 4. She was breaking tradition.

Vs. 62 5. They appealed her decision to Zacharias.

"Signs" = ἐρρεῖν = "to nod or wink", "to make signs with the head or eyes".

**B.** "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for He hath visited and redeemed his people".

Vs. 68 1. "Blessed" = εὐλογητός = applies only to God, never of men, to speak well of, as enumerate characteristics

2. "visited" = ἐπισκέπτομαι = to go to see, to visit with a view to help, relieve, or deliver.

3. "redeemed" = πολέω = to make, + λύτρωσις = the act of freeing or releasing, ransom, deliverance

Vs. 69 4. horn = power as in the horn of an animal or the horns of the altar. I Kings 1:50 "And Adonijah feared because of Solomon, and arose, and went, and caught hold on the horns of the altar".

"He hath given a descendant of His servant David to be our victorious Savior" - Beck

Vs. 70 5. This was prophesied from the very beginning.

**C.** The purpose of visitation and redemption.

Vs. 71 1. Israel would be saved. This would have occurred but Israel refused Jesus as King.

Vs. 72a 2. To perform promised mercy. Lev. 26:41-42

Vs. 72b 3. To remember His covenant. Lev. 26:45

Vs. 73 4. To remember the oath. Gen. 12:3, Heb. 6:13

Vs. 74 5. To serve God without fear.

Vs. 75 6. To serve God in holiness and righteousness.

**D.** To the child, John, he prophesied:

Vs. 76 1. He would go before Jesus, to prepare His way.

Vs. 77 2. To teach Israel of God's deliverance of them because God had remitted their sins.

This prepared the nation to accept their King and to serve God in holiness and righteousness.

"Salvation" = σωτηρία = safety, preservation from danger.

"Remission" = ἀφεσις = dismissal, discharge, setting free". John was to teach, "give knowledge" to