

## The Forerunner Is Born

Luke 1:57-80

### I. (V. 57-66) John Arrives

#### A. (v. 57) Mary \_\_\_\_\_

1. Doing the math, Mary went to be w/ Elizabeth in Elizabeth's 6th month of pregnancy, and stayed (v.26 & 56) with her for three months, **so we can easily surmise that Mary stayed until John was born.** Mary got to say... *"This is the one who will announce my \_\_\_\_\_."* Mary was still betrothed to Joseph at this point.

#### B. (v. 58) The Neighbors \_\_\_\_\_

1. More than just noticing a bump in her tummy, the neighbors knowing that the **"Lord had displayed His great mercy"**, can only be possible through the verbal testimony of Elizabeth, and possibly Mary.
2. Whether they are believers or not, we are to be telling others \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord has done for us! Our testimonies are powerful.

#### C. (v. 59-66) Not Business As \_\_\_\_\_, something's going on...

1. By God's command (Gen. 17:12; Lev. 12: 1-3; Phil. 3:5), it was customary to **name the child at circumcision on the 8th day**, usually in the presence of friends & family (v.14), who were pressuring them to name their son after his \_\_\_\_\_, but there was something different about this birth...
2. Against custom, Elizabeth & Zach **remained faithful to Gabriel's command from the Lord to name him John.**
3. Elizabeth had learned from Zacharias, through his tablet scribbles, everything Gabriel told him, but **as soon as Zacharias wrote, the official confirmation of the child's name, his 9 month condition of being mute was suddenly \_\_\_\_\_.** Point: Although tempting, our hardships should \_\_\_\_\_ be a license to let go of disobedience. Zacharias stayed faithful even though he was under discipline from the Lord for 9 months.

4. (v. 66) **God uses our obedience to put His miraculous works on display.** When this happens, this then becomes shocking proof that God is \_\_\_\_\_, to the watching world.

### III. (v.67-80) Zacharias's Prophecy & Blessing (*Benedictus*)

#### A. **"Zacharias, being filled with The Holy Spirit"...**

In every case, in Luke's nativity account, where someone was "filled with the Holy Spirit", the result was always an increased attitude of \_\_\_\_\_. Thus, true filling of the Spirit in someone should always come with a heightened view of the Lord, which has elements of:

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ (*I'm not worthy*, which is an increased awareness of our own sin)
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ - He must increase, I must decrease, i.e. *"hey guys, it's about Him, not me"*.
- c. Increased Attitude of \_\_\_\_\_ (**Is. 6:1-7**)

#### B. Zacharias's statement is two-fold:

- a. (v. 67-75) **Praise for God's salvation in keeping with His promises** (Mary did similar recounting)
  - i. This redemption is \_\_\_\_\_, not just political
  - ii. *"Horn of Salvation"*- symbol of \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii. *"House of David"*, this is clearly a ref to Jesus, not John since Zach & Liz were Levites, so his praise is about the blessings with regard to the Lord coming to earth...
- b. (v. 76-80) **Praise for John's role in preparing the way of His ministry.** John's role/ or life would not be glorious by earthly standards, but he went into it with a full heart anyway- his life was \_\_\_\_\_ to his called mission.
  - i. *"To give the people knowledge of salvation"* (**Prov. 14:12**). Knowledge is key if you are going to have forgiveness of sins- you have to know God's \_\_\_\_\_ for forgiveness.
  - ii. *"To guide our feet to peace"* = truly reconciled to God, having our sins \_\_\_\_\_.