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To Introduce Us to God's WORDS

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A night scene of a town with a bright star in the sky and a beam of light shining down on a building. The background is a dark night sky with a bright star in the center, emitting a beam of light that illuminates a building in the foreground. The town is visible in the distance, with lights from the buildings. The overall scene is dark, with the star and beam of light providing the primary illumination.

THE  
MESSIAH'S  
MISSION

Luke 1

# Luke 1:1

Many people have set out to write accounts about the events that have been fulfilled among us.

# Luke 1:2

**They used the eyewitness reports  
circulating among us from the  
early disciples.**

# Luke 1:3

Having carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I also have decided to write an accurate account for you, most honorable Theophilus,

# Luke 1:4

so you can be certain of the truth  
of everything you were taught.

# Luke 1:5

**When Herod was king of Judea, there was a Jewish priest named Zechariah. He was a member of the priestly order of Abijah, and his wife, Elizabeth, was also from the priestly line of Aaron.**

# **Luke 1:6**

**Zechariah and Elizabeth were  
righteous in God's eyes, careful  
to obey all of the Lord's  
commandments and regulations.**

# Luke 1:7

**They had no children because Elizabeth was unable to conceive, and they were both very old.**



# Luke 1:8

One day Zechariah was serving God in the Temple, for his order was on duty that week.

# Luke 1:9

**As was the custom of the priests,  
he was chosen by lot to enter  
the sanctuary of the Lord and  
burn incense.**

# **Luke 1:10**

**While the incense was being burned, a great crowd stood outside, praying.**

# **Luke 1:11**

**While Zechariah was in the sanctuary, an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the incense altar.**

# Luke 1:12

**Zechariah was shaken and overwhelmed with fear when he saw him.**

# Luke 1:13

But the angel said, “Don’t be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer. Your wife, Elizabeth, will give you a son, and you are to name him John.

# **Luke 1:14**

**You will have great joy and  
gladness, and many will rejoice  
at his birth,**

# **Luke 1:15**

**for he will be great in the eyes of the Lord. He must never touch wine or other alcoholic drinks. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even before his birth.**



# **Luke 1:16**

**And he will turn many Israelites to the Lord their God. He will be a man with the spirit and power of Elijah.**

# Luke 1:17

**He will prepare the people for the coming of the Lord. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and he will cause those who are rebellious to accept the wisdom of the godly.”**

# Luke 1:18

**Zechariah said to the angel, “How can I be sure this will happen? I’m an old man now, and my wife is also well along in years.”**

# **Luke 1:19**

**Then the angel said, “I am Gabriel! I stand in the very presence of God. It was he who sent me to bring you this good news!**

## **Luke 1:20**

**But now, since you didn't believe what I said, you will be silent and unable to speak until the child is born. For my words will certainly be fulfilled at the proper time."**

# Luke 1:21

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah to come out of the sanctuary, wondering why he was taking so long.

## **Luke 1:22**

**When he finally did come out, he couldn't speak to them. Then they realized from his gestures and his silence that he must have seen a vision in the sanctuary.**

# Luke 1:23

When Zechariah's week of service in the Temple was over, he returned home.



# **Luke 1:24**

**Soon afterward his wife,  
Elizabeth, became pregnant  
and went into seclusion for  
five months.**

# Luke 1:25

**“How kind the Lord is!” she exclaimed. “He has taken away my disgrace of having no children.”**

# **Luke 1:26**

**In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, to a virgin named Mary.**

# **Luke 1:27**

**She was engaged to be married  
to a man named Joseph, a  
descendant of King David.**

# Luke 1:28

**Gabriel appeared to her and said,  
“Greetings, favored woman! The  
Lord is with you!**

# Luke 1:29

**Confused and disturbed,  
Mary tried to think what  
the angel could mean.**

# Luke 1:30

**“Don’t be afraid, Mary,” the angel told her, “for you have found favor with God!”**

# **Luke 1:31**

**You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus.**



# **Luke 1:32**

**He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David.**

# Luke 1:33

And he will reign over Israel  
forever; his Kingdom will  
never end!”

# Luke 1:34

Mary asked the angel,  
“But how can this happen?  
I am a virgin.”

## **Luke 1:35**

**The angel replied, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God.**

## **Luke 1:36**

**What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she has conceived a son and is now in her sixth month.**

# **Luke 1:37**

**For the word of God  
will never fail.**

# **Luke 1:38**

**Mary responded, “I am the Lord’s servant. May everything you have said about me come true.” And then the angel left her.**

## **Luke 1:39-40**

**A few days later Mary hurried to the hill country of Judea, to the town where Zechariah lived. She entered the house and greeted Elizabeth.**



# **Luke 1:41**

**At the sound of Mary's greeting,  
Elizabeth's child leaped within  
her, and Elizabeth was filled  
with the Holy Spirit.**

# **Luke 1:42**

**Elizabeth gave a glad cry and exclaimed to Mary, “God has blessed you above all women, and your child is blessed.**

# Luke 1:43

Why am I so honored,  
that the mother of my  
Lord should visit me?

# **Luke 1:44**

**When I heard your greeting,  
the baby in my womb  
jumped for joy.**

# Luke 1:45

**You are blessed because you believed that the Lord would do what he said.”**

# **Luke 1:46**

**Mary responded, “Oh, how my soul praises the Lord.**

# Luke 1:47

**How my spirit rejoices  
in God my Savior!**

# **Luke 1:48**

**For he took notice of his lowly servant girl, and from now on all generations will call me blessed.**



# **Luke 1:49**

**For the Mighty One is holy,  
and he has done great things  
for me.**

# Luke 1:50

He shows mercy from generation  
to generation to all who fear him.

# **Luke 1:51**

**His mighty arm has done  
tremendous things! He has  
scattered the proud and  
haughty ones.**

# **Luke 1:52**

**He has brought down princes  
from their thrones and  
exalted the humble.**

# Luke 1:53

He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away with empty hands.

# Luke 1:54

He has helped his servant Israel  
and remembered to be merciful.

# Luke 1:55

**For he made this promise to our ancestors, to Abraham and his children forever.”**

# **Luke 1:56**

**Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back to her own home.**



# **Luke 1:57**

**When it was time for Elizabeth's baby to be born, she gave birth to a son.**

# **Luke 1:58**

**And when her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had been very merciful to her, everyone rejoiced with her.**

# **Luke 1:59**

**When the baby was eight days old, they all came for the circumcision ceremony. They wanted to name him Zechariah, after his father.**

# Luke 1:60

**But Elizabeth said, “No!  
His name is John!”**

# Luke 1:61

“What?” they exclaimed.

“There is no one in all your family by that name.”

# Luke 1:62

So they used gestures to ask  
the baby's father what he  
wanted to name him.

# Luke 1:63

He motioned for a writing tablet,  
and to everyone's surprise he  
wrote, "His name is John."

# **Luke 1:64**

**Instantly Zechariah could  
speak again, and he  
began praising God.**



# **Luke 1:65**

**Awe fell upon the whole neighborhood, and the news of what had happened spread throughout the Judean hills.**

# **Luke 1:66**

**Everyone who heard about it reflected on these events and asked, “What will this child turn out to be?” For the hand of the Lord was surely upon him in a special way.**

# Luke 1:67

Then his father, Zechariah, was filled with the Holy Spirit and gave this prophecy:

# **Luke 1:68**

**“Praise the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has visited and redeemed his people.**

## **Luke 1:69-70**

**He has sent us a mighty Savior  
from the royal line of his  
servant David, just as he  
promised through his holy  
prophets long ago.**

# **Luke 1:71**

**Now we will be saved from  
our enemies and from all  
who hate us.**

## **Luke 1:72-73**

**He has been merciful to our ancestors by remembering his sacred covenant— the covenant he swore with an oath to our ancestor Abraham.**

# **Luke 1:74-75**

**We have been rescued from our enemies so we can serve God without fear, in holiness and righteousness for as long as we live.**



# **Luke 1:76**

**And you, my little son, will be called the prophet of the Most High, because you will prepare the way for the Lord.**

# **Luke 1:77**

**You will tell his people how to  
find salvation through  
forgiveness of their sins.**

# Luke 1:78

Because of God's tender mercy,  
the morning light from heaven  
is about to break upon us,

# Luke 1:79

to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide us to the path of peace.”

# **Luke 1:80**

**John grew up and became strong  
in spirit. And he lived in the  
wilderness until he began his  
public ministry to Israel.**

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THE  
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Luke 1

# Principle #1

The manifestation of God in the flesh on earth was designed to wreck and then correct our understanding of God and His upside down and backwards kingdom.

# Principle #2

Since God's Kingdom is upside down and backwards in comparison to our world, the Word of God intentionally challenges every idea we hold concerning what life looks like for those who are blessed and highly favored.



# Blessed and Highly Favored

**Zechariah and Elizabeth –**

- **Barren and very old.**
- **Ridiculed and shamed as a result of not having a child.**
- **Unanswered prayer for decades.**
- **He was muted for unbelief.**

# Blessed and Highly Favored

Mary –

- A lowly servant girl (v.48).
- Becomes pregnant without knowing a man, and after getting engaged.
- Reputation was destroyed.
- Risked getting stoned to death

# Blessed and Highly Favored

John the Baptist –

- Life was preplanned for him.
- Not allowed to consume alcohol or wine ever.
- Grew up in the wilderness living as a monk, lived off of a diet of locusts and honey.

# The Other Side of the Coin



# Blessed and Highly Favored

**John the Baptist –**

- **Filled with the Holy Spirit even before his birth.**
- **He would be the long awaited messenger that preceded Christ.**
- **The spirit and power of Elijah.**

# Blessed and Highly Favored

- Would turn many Israelites back to God.
- Would turn the hearts of the fathers to their children.
- Would cause those who are rebellious to accept the wisdom of the godly.

# Principle #3

Since God's Kingdom is upside down and backwards in comparison to what we often believe, the Lord came to teach us that every one of our lives is a part of a much bigger story.

**Because our lives are a part of the  
Messiah's Mission, the events of  
our lives that we thought were a  
total waste, forever lost,  
unspeakable, unforgiveable, and  
unhealable; when they are put  
under the redeeming work of  
Christ, are transformed into  
something new.**



**They go from being a wasteland of pain, suffering, loss, regret, and shame, to becoming a new creation that is transformed by the Lord's power to become very fertile ground where we have been given power and authority to minister to others.**

# Principle #4

Since God's Kingdom is upside down and backwards in comparison to what we often believe, the Lord came to teach us that faith without sacrifice, pain, suffering, and obedience is not real.

# Principle #5

Since God's Kingdom is upside down and backwards in comparison to what we often believe, the Lord came to teach us that surrender is the key to being a committed disciple, not comfort.

# Principle #6

Since God's Kingdom is upside down and backwards in comparison to what we often believe, the Lord came to teach us who it is and what it is that God values.

# Principle #7

**The Kingdom of God cries out in pain as it witnesses the differences between who we value, what we value, and how we do things, in contrast with who God values, what He values, and how He wants us to do things.**

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