



The Prophecy of the Birth of John the Baptist

Luke 1:5-14, 18-25

- 1) In the darkest of times, God is still at work
 - a) Hasmonean dynasty passed to Herodians
 - b) Days of Herod the Great
 - c) Last angel was 500 years prior
 - d) Last prophecy was 400+ years prior
- 2) Meet Zacharias—(*Yahweh remembers*), a priest who prayed
- 3) Meet Elizabeth—the barren but blameless bride
- 4) Meet Gabriel—(*mighty one of God*), God's heralding angel
- 5) Observations of Text:
 - a) There is Light in the midst of darkness (cf. Isa 9:2; Matt 4:16; cf. John 1:5)
 - b) God always reserves a remnant for His timing
 - c) The true believer is *righteous & blameless*
 - d) The blameless are pressed the hardest; wait the longest
 - e) Great accountability for the blameless
 - f) Past prayers are still effective & answered greater than we pray
 - g) No randomness in God's workings
 - h) Outward faithfulness can be so rigid it causes us to miss that which we are faithful to
 - i) Unbelief renders us deaf & dumb