



REIGNITING YOUR PASSION FOR CHRIST

A Study of the Gospel of Luke

TOUCHED BY AN ANGEL Luke 1:5-25

INTRODUCTION: Luke’s detailed description of Christ’s entrance into the world begins with the miraculous birth of another baby whose coming teaches us some important truths about God’s unexpected intervention in our lives.

Overview of Luke

Christ’s Birth		Christ’s Ministry		Christ’s Death	
“Has Come”		“To Seek”		“To Save”	
1:1	4:13	4:14	9:50	9:51	24:53

Adapted from THE ORIGINATION OF SOMETHING GLORIOUS by Charles R. Swindoll, 1994

Luke 19:10 “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

I. The Parents’ Plight (Luke 1:5-7)

Luke 1:5a “In the days of Herod, king of Judea...”

Luke 1:5b “...there was a certain priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah; and he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth.”

Luke 1:6 “And they were both righteous in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord.”

Matthew 1:21 “And she will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins.”

Luke 1:7 “And they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both advanced in years.”

II. God’s Intervention (Luke 1:8-17)

A. Zacharias’ Faithfulness (Luke 1:8-10)

Luke 1:8-9 “⁸Now it came about, while he was performing his priestly service before God in the appointed order of his division, ⁹according to the custom of the priestly office, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense.”

Proverbs 16:33 “The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord.”

When Seeking God’s Direction...

1. Walk **blamelessly** before the Lord.
2. Persist in **prayer**.
3. Be faithful in your everyday **responsibilities**.

B. The Angel’s Appearance (Luke 1:11-17)

Luke 1:11-12 “¹¹And an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the altar of incense. ¹²And Zacharias was troubled when he saw him, and fear gripped him.”

Isaiah 40:3-5 “³A voice is calling, ‘Clear the way for the LORD in the wilderness; make smooth in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Let every valley be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; and let the rough ground become a plain, and the rugged terrain a broad valley; ⁵ Then the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all flesh will see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

Six Prophecies About John

1. He will bring **joy** to others. (Luke 1:14)
2. He will be **great** in God's sight. (Luke 1:15)
3. He will never drink **wine**. (Luke 1:15)
4. He will be **controlled** by the Holy Spirit. (Luke 1:15)
5. He will **turn** many to God. (Luke 1:16)
6. He will be the **forerunner** of the Messiah. (Luke 1:17)

Malachi 4:5 "Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the LORD."

C. Zacharias' Response (Luke 1:18-23)

Luke 1:18 "And Zacharias said to the angel, 'How shall I know this for certain? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years.'"

Luke 1:19 "And 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.'"

Luke 1:20 "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 shall be fulfilled in their proper time."

Luke 1:21 "And the people were waiting for Zacharias, and were wondering at his delay in the temple."

Luke 1:22-23 "22 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. 23 And it came about, when the days of his priestly service were ended, that he went back home."

III. God's Fulfillment Of The Promise (Luke 1:24-25, 57-80)

Luke 1:24-25 “²⁴ And after these days Elizabeth his wife became pregnant; and she kept herself in seclusion for five months, saying, ²⁵ ‘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.’”

Luke 1:57-64 “⁵⁷ Now the time had come for Elizabeth to give birth, and she brought forth a son. ⁵⁸ And her neighbors and her relatives heard that the Lord had displayed His great mercy toward her; and they were rejoicing with her. ⁵⁹ And it came about on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to call him Zacharias, after his father. ⁶⁰ And his mother answered and said, ‘No indeed; but he shall be called John.’ ⁶¹ And they said to her, ‘There is no one among your relatives who is called by that name.’ ⁶² And they made signs to his father, as to what he wanted him called.’ ⁶³ And he asked for a tablet and wrote as follows, ‘His name is John.’ And they were all astonished. ⁶⁴ And at once his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he began to speak in praise of God.”

IV. Two Timeless Truths For Today

- A. Our **Timetable** Is Not Always God's **Timetable**.

- B. Our Problems Are **Opportunities** to Experience God's **Power**.

Conclusion: