

## II. GOD'S BLESSING

“One day Zechariah was serving as a priest before God, because his group was on duty. According to the custom of the priests, he was chosen by lot to go into the Temple of the Lord and burn incense. There were a great many people outside praying at the time the incense was offered. Then an angel of the Lord appeared to Zechariah, standing on the right side of the incense table. When he saw the angel, Zechariah was startled and frightened. But the angel said to him, “Zechariah, don’t be afraid. God has heard your prayer. Your wife, Elizabeth, will give birth to a son, and you will name him John. He will bring you joy and gladness, and many people will be happy because of his birth. John will be a great man for the Lord. He will never drink wine or beer, and even from birth, he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will help many people of Israel return to the Lord their God. He will go before the Lord in spirit and power like Elijah. He will make peace between parents and their children and will bring those who are not obeying God back to the right way of thinking, to make a people ready for the coming of the Lord.”

Luke 1:8-17 (NCV)

“‘How can I know that what you say is true? I am an old man, and my wife is old, too.’ The angel answered him, ‘I am Gabriel. I stand before God, who sent me to talk to you and to tell you this good news. Now, listen! You will not be able to speak until the day these things happen, because you did not believe what I told you. But they will really happen.’ Outside, the people were still waiting for Zechariah and were surprised that he was staying so long in the Temple. When Zechariah came outside, he could not speak to them, and they knew he had seen a vision in the Temple. He could only make signs to them and remained unable to speak.”

Luke 1:18-22 (NCV)

### A. Elizabeth Was A Woman Of Prayer

“Your prayers have been heard.”

Luke 1:13 (CEV)

### B. Elizabeth Understood God’s Timing Is Not Our Timing

“But be sure that everything that I have told you will come true at the proper time.”

Luke 1:20 (Phillips)

“When his time of service was completed, he returned home. After this his wife Elizabeth became pregnant....”

Luke 1:23-24 (NIV)

“Elizabeth became pregnant and did not leave the house for five months.”

Luke 1:24 (GNT)

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

Luke 1:25 (NLT)

“When it was time for Elizabeth’s baby to be born, she gave birth to a son. And when her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had been very merciful to her, everyone rejoiced with her. When the baby was eight days old, they all came for the circumcision ceremony. They wanted to name him Zechariah, after his father. But Elizabeth said, ‘No! His name is John!’ ‘What?’ they exclaimed. ‘There is no one in all your family by that name.’ So they used gestures to ask the baby’s father what he wanted to name him. He motioned for a writing tablet, and to everyone’s surprise he wrote, ‘His name is John.’ Instantly Zechariah could speak again, and he began praising God. Awe fell upon the whole neighborhood, and the news of what had happened spread throughout the Judean hills. 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 1:57-66 (NLT)

“I tell you the truth, of all who have ever lived, none is greater than John the Baptist.”

Matthew 11:11 (NLT)

**God Blessed Elizabeth Because She Chose To Trust God’s Plan**

**Rather Than Becoming Bitter**

## **DEFEATING DISAPPOINTMENT**

### **The Light Of Christmas – Part 1**

**November 30, 2025**

**Jerry Clonch**

“They realized that he had the wisdom of God by the way he was able to judge properly.” 1 Kings 3:28 (NCB)

#### **I. ELIZABETH’S DISAPPOINTMENT**

“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. Zechariah and Elizabeth were righteous in God’s eyes, careful to obey all of the Lord’s commandments and regulations. They had no children because Elizabeth was unable to conceive, and they were both very old.”

Luke 1:5-7 (NLT)

##### **A. Elizabeth Was A Good And Godly Woman**

“Zechariah and Elizabeth were both good people who pleased God.”

Luke 1:6 (ERV)

##### **B. Elizabeth Was Carrying A Heartbreaking Disappointment**

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

Luke 1:7 (NLT)

#### **Living For God Doesn’t Guarantee Us A Pain-Free Or A Problem-Free Life**

“ In this world you will have trouble.”

John 16:33 (NIV)