

## BASIC SUMMARY OF LUKE'S FOUR-PART CHRISTMAS ACCOUNT

### 1. LESSONS 1 & 2

**A** ANNOUNCEMENT OF JOHN THE BAPTIZER'S BIRTH

**B** ANNOUNCEMENT OF **JESUS THE MESSIAH**'S BIRTH

### 2. LESSONS 3 & 4

**A** THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIZER, plus the *Benedictus*

**B** THE BIRTH OF **JESUS THE MESSIAH**, plus His *Presentation*

Concerning the term "virgin" – Genesis 24: Rebecca

## LESSON 3

# INFANCY NARRATIVES OF JOHN & JESUS FROM LUKE'S GOSPEL

## **B. THE BEGINNINGS: INFANCY OF JOHN THE BAPTIZER AND JESUS THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF JESUS AT THE JERUSALEM TEMPLE: Luke 1:5—2:39**

### **JOHN IS BORN**

#### **Luke 1:57-67**

**57** Now the time came [was “fulfilled”] for Elizabeth to have her baby, and she gave birth to a son.

**58** Her neighbors and relatives heard how the Lord had been unusually kind to her; and they shared her joy.

**59** On the eighth day they came to circumcise the baby.

They were going to call him Zacharias because that was his father’s name. **60** But his mother spoke up and said, “Not so, he will be named John.”

**61** “But there is no one among your relatives who has that name,” they told her.

**62** Then they motioned\* to his father to see what name he might want him to have.

**63** He asked [signaled] for a writing tablet and wrote the following, “His name is **John**.” They were all surprised.

**64** At once Zacharias’ speech was restored and he began to speak, praising God.

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**\* Luke 1:20-22:** “**20** And now, you [Zacharias] will be silent and not able to talk (or hear) until the day this happens, because you did not believe what I said. But it will be fulfilled at the right time.”

**21** Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zacharias and were surprised that he was staying so long in the Holy Place. **22** When he did come out, he could not speak to them (nor hear them). Then they realized that he had seen a vision in the Holy Place. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to talk.

**65** Everyone who lived around them was overawed. And throughout the hill country of Judea people kept talking about all these things [things spoken, the miraculous birth, baby's given name, etc.]. **66** All who heard about it thought it over and asked, "What is this child going to be?" **For it was clear that the Lord's hand was with him.**  
**67** His father Zacharias was filled with the **Holy Spirit**, and he prophesied:

**THE BENEDICTUS = BLESSING/PRAISE**

**Luke 1:68-75:** a. Deals with 'the Lord, the God of Israel' (1:68a) **AND**  
 b. what God has done for Israel—**past, present, future** (1:68b-75)."

**68** "Bless/Praise the Lord, the God of Israel [**"Yahweh Elōhē Yishrāēl"**],  
 because He has visited His people,  
 and has **made redemption/prepared a ransom** for them.  
**69** He has raised up a **Horn\* of Salvation** for us in the family of His servant David,  
**70** as He said long ago through His holy prophets  
**71** that He would save us from our enemies  
 and from the power of all who hate us [**"spiritually"**].  
**72** He wanted **to be merciful** to our fathers  
 and **remember** His holy **covenant**,  
**73** the **oath** He swore to our father Abraham—  
**74** **to rescue** us from our enemies  
 and to let us serve Him without fear  
**75** in holiness and righteousness before Him all our life.




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\*See Psalm 123:17.

**Luke 1:76-79:** Toward the Future - “Zechariah’s prophetic pronouncements based on what God will now do through his son John...” —Dr. Just

**76** “And you, child, will be called a prophet of the **Most High**.  
For you will go ahead of the **Lord** to prepare **His ways**—  
**77** to give **knowledge of salvation** to **His** people  
**by** the **forgiveness of their sins**,  
**78** through the **merciful compassion** of our **God**  
**whereby** the heavenly **Sun\*** **visits** [**rises upon**] us—  
**79** to **shine** on those who sit in darkness  
and in the shadow of death,  
to **guide** our feet into the way of peace.”  
(See **Isaiah 9:2**; **59:8a**.)

**Ω** **Recall the statement that followed Mary’s Magnificat at Luke 1:56:** “Mary stayed/abided with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home.”

**80** The child **John** grew and became strong in spirit. He lived in the wilderness until he appeared in public before Israel. **(An Essene?)**

**\*Dr. Just: The Messiah. TLH: “Sun” – 26 times; KJV: “the dayspring from on high hath visited us.” Malachi 4:2: “But for you who respect My name there will rise the Sun of Righteousness with healing in His wings.”**

Compare **Numbers 24:17:** “a **Star** will come from Jacob” (AAT).

The Hebrew term for “sun” is *shimshōn*, the name of the OT hero \_\_\_\_\_ .