

Breaking the Silence

PASTOR MIKE YODER • LUKE 1:57–80



But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John.”

“He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth,”

Luke 1:14

“for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born.”

“He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God.”

“And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous — to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

**Breaking His Silence: God
unveils John as His promised
preparation for Jesus. (1:57–66)**



When it was time for Elizabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a son.

Luke 1:57

Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown her great mercy, and they shared her joy.

Luke 1:58

On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him after his father Zechariah,

Luke 1:59

but his mother spoke up and said, “No! He is to be called John.”

Luke 1:60

They said to her, “There is no one among your relatives who has that name.”

Luke 1:61

Then they made signs to his father, to find out what he would like to name the child.

Luke 1:62

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

*Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue set free,
and he began to speak, praising God.*

Luke 1:64

All the neighbors were filled with awe, and throughout the hill country of Judea people were talking about all these things.

Luke 1:65

Everyone who heard this wondered about it, asking, “What then is this child going to be?” For the Lord’s hand was with him.

Luke 1:66



**A lack of faith in Christ turns...off the color and turns
down the sound of life as it was meant to be lived...**

Michael Milton

But faith in Christ, and faith in the God who changes things, who interrupts our lives with the glorious news of salvation by repentance and faith in Jesus, turns on the sound, lights up the soul, and causes mute men to shout for joy.

Michael Milton

Breaking Our Silence: We praise
God for His grand plan and
personal intervention. (1:67–80)



*Praise to the God who
acts on our behalf.*



“Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because He has come to His people and redeemed them.”

Luke 1:68

“He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David”

Luke 1:69

“(as He said through His holy prophets of long ago)...”

Luke 1:70

Redemption has both political and spiritual elements, since the hymn includes not only nationalistic themes (1:71, 74) but also a statement (1:77,78) about the forgiveness of sins...

What will be new is the division of the deliverance into two distinct phases tied to two comings of Jesus.

*Praise to the God who
delivers His people.*



“salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us —”

Luke 1:71

“to show mercy to our ancestors and to remember His holy covenant,”

Luke 1:72



“the oath He swore to our father Abraham:”

“to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve Him without fear”

Luke 1:74

“in holiness and righteousness before Him all our days.”

Luke 1:75

The entire Bible — from Abraham to the prophets to King David — is about this one thing: salvation. The Bible has one story: God visiting or coming to get His people. That was and is the plan.

Thabiti Anyabwile

*Praise to the God who
sends a forerunner.*



*“And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High;
for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for Him,”*

Luke 1:76

“to give His people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins...”

Luke 1:77

*Praise to the God who
offers light and peace.*



“because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven”

Luke 1:78

“to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.”

Luke 1:79

**John will prepare the way for God's visitation in Messiah.
He will instruct them about salvation and the forgiveness
of sins...**

But Messiah will serve like a bright guiding light that takes the people out of the darkness and brings them into God's way. John will proclaim salvation, but Jesus can take them into it.

This song praises God for deliverance from sin and the reign of the Devil in the world. This is the announcement of a giant movement on the divine eschatological clock. A new era is upon mankind with the coming of Christ.

Michael Milton

*There will be no more gloom for those who were in distress.
In the past He humbled the land of Zebulun and the land
of Naphtali, but in the future He will honor Galilee of the
nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan —*

Isaiah 9:1

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

Isaiah 9:2

*You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy;
they rejoice before You as people rejoice at the harvest, as
warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder.*

Isaiah 9:3

For as in the day of Midian's defeat, You have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor.

Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire.

Isaiah 9:5

For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

Of the greatness of His government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Isaiah 9:7

**The God of mercy fulfills
what He promises, despite our
disappointments or disobedience.**

