

Zacharias' Song of Praise

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Hello! This is Dorothy -

This is a glorious time of year! This is a time when we can praise God in our heart. Perhaps you are feeling very, very fearful; perhaps you feel very depressed; perhaps you feel isolated; perhaps you feel everybody has left you out of all that is happening around. But you know, life is a lot more than all the parties, and all the gifts and all the entertainments that go on at this season. This is the glorious fact: that wherever you are alone in all that you are suffering, in all that is upon your heart, right now, the Lord Himself is coming to you to speak to you through His Word.

You see, as we turn in **Luke's Gospel chapter 1**, we read the story of this man, Zacharias, with his wife Elisabeth, who had a son called John. It was quite an amazing story when we read about him, because God so came upon him that his song, which went forth from his lips, was a song of great praise. For we read here —

64 After his (Zacharias') mouth was opened, immediately, and his tongue loosed, and he spake, and praised God.

65 And fear came on all that dwelt round about them: and all these sayings were noised abroad throughout all the hill country of

Judea. Couldn't you just imagine it? Everybody talking about this baby.

66 And all they that heard them, laid them up in their hearts, saying, **What manner of child shall this be! And the hand of the Lord was with him.** This is speaking of the forerunner of our Lord. But we realize that as one miracle takes place, God is working the other miracle, because this is all tied up with the birth of our Lord Jesus. There is no point having a special child born John the Baptist, who lived a very blameless life, who lived a life totally available to God, without him having the answer to sin and how to pay the price for sin. John might speak of sin and bring a message of repentance as needed, but oh, it needed Jesus to come and he knew that. But here is Zacharias.

67 **And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost . . .** I love this beautiful passage. First, John the Baptist had been filled with the Holy Ghost in his mother's womb when Mary had arrived. Now we read - . . . *Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying, -* and this is right from God to you -

68 **Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people.** Oh, I hope you are included in this. Let it be that you can say, *Yes, I have been redeemed!*

69 **And hath raised up an horn. . . - that's a power - . . . of salvation for us in the house of his servant David.** They knew it

had been prophesied that this Messiah would come down through his servant David.

70 (As he spake - *this is Zacharias* - by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began:) *This has been anticipated since the world began.* This was even declared back in Genesis 3:16, when the Seed was going to come to be raised up to be the answer of all the seeds and all of the sickness and the sin of the world.

71 That we should be saved from our enemies . . . Perhaps right now you are very conscious of the enemy. Perhaps you are more conscious of the area in which you live and the terrible things happening around you than you are of the fact there is One who saves you from your enemies, as you call on the Name of the Lord, as you triumph in His victory. . . . **and from the hand of all that hate us.**

Your situation might be extremely dangerous, but remember to triumph in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus.

72 To perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant;

73 The oath which he sware to our father Abraham. He promised Abraham, because of his obedience that Abraham was the one who was going to see so many children come forth that he couldn't even number them, like the sands of the sea. and the stars in the heavens.

74 That he would grant unto us, that we, being delivered out

of the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear. If you are a child of God, you are totally free from all that the enemy would try to put around you. And in the liberty that He will give by His Spirit, He will enable you to be able to *serve him without fear.*

75 In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life. Why? Because the life of Christ within you will make this possible. This is the message of the grace of God! He comes to us right where we are and this work is done. It can be an overflow not only in our life today, but a continual overflow. For the Word of God tells us that we should go on being filled with the Spirit. It is not good enough for one day to be full of the Spirit; it is important that we enter today and the coming days, rejoicing in the Lord, with those fresh infillings.

76 And thou, child, - *this is speaking of John* - shall be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways. May you and I today *go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways.* May we share with others. Oh, I beseech you, tell somebody today that you love Jesus. Let them know He is the only answer.

And please remember, we are here for you. Write to us and see how we can help you in whatever way that is burdening your heart spiritually.

In Jesus' Name. Amen.