

Christmas Characters – Zechariah and Elizabeth

Christmas Characters Series (CC-01)

December 12, 2021

Zechariah – by inspiration of the Holy Spirit...

- Luke 1:78-79

The Miracle Birth of John – Luke 1

- Zechariah and Elizabeth
 - Righteous in God's eyes
 - Careful to obey all of the Lord's commandments and regulations
- Psalm 19:7-8
- Angel Appearance
 - God has heard your prayer
 - Elizabeth will give you a son (gender reveal)
 - Elizabeth – the disgrace of bareness taken away
 - Name him John – “The Lord is Gracious”
 - A prophet not a priest like his father – ending the silence of 400 years since Malachi
 - A Herald of Messiah
 - Filled with the Spirit before born
- Zechariah's struggle
 - Still praying
 - How can I be sure?
 - Since you didn't believe – silenced for 9 months
 - My words fulfilled at the proper time
- God answers prayer in his own way and in his own time.
 - He worked in an "impossible" situation—Elizabeth's barrenness—to bring about the fulfillment of all the prophecies concerning the Messiah.
 - If you want to have your prayers answered, you must be open to what God can do in impossible situations.
 - You must wait for God to work in his way and in his time
- Elizabeth became pregnant
 - Taken away the disgrace of no children
 - People used to say she was barren
 - Nothing is impossible with God
 - Mary visits Elizabeth
 - John leaped within her

- Elizabeth filled with the Holy Spirit (John too?!)
- The mother of my Lord visited me...

The Birth of John

- Circumcision Ceremony
 - His name is John
 - Zechariah speaks – prophetically
 - Of Messiah
 - Of John
- Luke 1:78-79

Never too old

- Zechariah and Elizabeth were both very old
- Age is not a disqualifier
- The advantage and significance of age
- Psalm 71:18 ...Let me proclaim your power to this new generation, your mighty miracles to all who come after me.
- Psalm 92:12-14 ... Even in old age they will still produce fruit; they will remain vital and green.
- Job 12:12 Wisdom belongs to the aged and understanding to the old.
- Titus 2:4 These older women must train the younger women to love their husbands and their children,
- Titus 2:6-7 ...encourage the young men to live wisely. ... you yourself must be an example to them
- End well – British Preacher – F.B. Meyer – “I do hope my Father will let the river of my life go flowing fully till the finish. I don't want it to end in a swamp.”
- Prayer – help me to end well - to endure until the end

Young honor the elders

- Leviticus 19:32 (NLT2) “Stand up in the presence of the elderly, and show respect for the aged. Fear your God. I am the LORD.
- 1 Peter 5:5 ... younger men must accept the authority of the elders.