



Zechariah's Song

THE BENEDICTUS LUKE 1:67-80

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NV • December 10, 2017
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Pastor Joe's email: Joe@southreno.com

“...Zechariah...prophesied saying...
‘Blessed *be* the Lord God of Israel”

- v. 68 (NASB)

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini in Israel (Latin)
“Blessed is the name of the Lord, the God of Israel” (English)

ABOUT ZECHARIAH

- This Zechariah is not the OT prophet by the same name. This Zechariah was a priest in Jerusalem during the time of Christ's birth.
- He and his wife, Elizabeth, were old, barren and could not have a child.
- When the angel told them that they would give birth to a son, Zechariah didn't believe. God punished him by taking away his speech.
- The angel told Zechariah to name the baby, John (the Baptist).
- When they had baby John circumcised, God restored Zechariah's speech.
- Zechariah the priest was steeped in OT scriptures.
- Zechariah's message was basically twofold:
 - A. The Messiah was on His way.
 - B. The long wait will soon be over.

ABOUT ZECHARIAH'S SONG

“Blessed *be* the Lord God of Israel for He has visited...”

-v. 68 (NASB)

NOW, ZECHARIAH GIVES FIVE TRUTHS ABOUT THIS DIVINE VISITATION:

1. It's Saving Purpose

Luke 1:67–68, NLT -⁶⁷ Then his father, Zechariah, was filled with the Holy Spirit and gave this prophecy: ⁶⁸ “Praise the Lord, the God of Israel, because He has visited and redeemed his people...

2. It's Predicted Fulfillment

Luke 1:70–73, NLT -⁷⁰ just as He promised through His holy prophets long ago. ⁷¹ Now we will be saved from our enemies and from all who hate us. ⁷² He has been merciful to our ancestors by remembering His sacred covenant— ⁷³ the covenant He swore with an oath to our ancestor Abraham.

3. It's Transforming Enablement

Luke 1:74–75, NLT -⁷⁴ We have been rescued from our enemies so we can serve God without fear, ⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness for as long as we live.

4. It's Prepared Forerunner

Luke 1:75–77, NLT -⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness for as long as we live. ⁷⁶ And you, my little son, will be called the prophet of the Most High, because you will prepare the way for the Lord. ⁷⁷ You will tell His people how to find salvation through forgiveness of their sins.

5. It's Liberating Impact

Luke 1:78–79, NLT -⁷⁸ Because of God's tender mercy, the morning light from heaven is about to break upon us, ⁷⁹ to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide us to the path of peace.”

LESSONS FROM ZECHARIAH'S LIFE AND SONG

A. Point: God visited this earth.

B. He came to save us.

C. He came to forgive us.

D. He came to guide us.

“The story of Zechariah teaches us to let God answer in His own time, in His own way, in His own power and for His own purpose.”

-Dr. Jon Courson