



12/18/16

Prelude Luke 1:1-5

Scene 1 Luke 1:5-22

Scene 2

²³ And it came about, when the days of his priestly service were ended, that he went back home.

²⁴ And after these days Elizabeth his wife became pregnant; and she kept herself in seclusion for five months, saying,

²⁵ "This is the way the Lord has dealt with me in the days when He looked *with favor* upon *me*, to take away my disgrace among men."

Scene 3

²⁶ Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee, called Nazareth,

²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

²⁸ And coming in, he said to her, "Hail, favored one! The Lord *is* with you."

²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at *this* statement, and kept pondering what kind of salutation this might be.

³⁰ And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God.

³¹ "And behold, you will conceive in your womb, and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus.

³² "He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David;

³³ and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and His kingdom will have no end."

³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy offspring shall be called the Son of God.

³⁶ "And behold, even your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age; and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month.

³⁷ "For nothing will be impossible with God."

³⁸ And Mary said, "Behold, the bondservant of the Lord; be it done to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Scene 4

³⁹ Now at this time Mary arose and went with haste to the hill country, to a city of Judah,

⁴⁰ and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth.

⁴¹ And it came about that when Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

⁴² And she cried out with a loud voice, and said, "Blessed among women *are* you, and blessed *is* the fruit of your womb!
⁴³ "And how has it *happened* to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?
⁴⁴ "For behold, when the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby leaped in my womb for joy.
⁴⁵ "And blessed *is* she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord."

⁴⁶ And Mary said: "My soul exalts the Lord,

⁴⁷ And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.

⁴⁸ "For He has had regard for the humble state of His bondservant; For behold, from this time on all generations will count me blessed.

⁴⁹ "For the Mighty One has done great things for me; And holy is His name.

⁵⁰ "And His mercy is upon generation after generation Toward those who fear Him.

⁵¹ "He has done mighty deeds with His arm; He has scattered *those who were* proud in the thoughts of their heart.

⁵² "He has brought down rulers from *their* thrones, And has exalted those who were humble.

⁵³ "He has filled the hungry with good things; And sent away the rich empty-handed.

⁵⁴ "He has given help to Israel His servant, In remembrance of His mercy,

⁵⁵ As He spoke to our fathers, To Abraham and his offspring forever."

⁵⁶ And Mary stayed with her about three months, and *then* returned to her home.

Scene 5

⁵⁷ Now the time had come for Elizabeth to give birth, and she brought forth a son.

⁵⁸ And her neighbors and her relatives heard that the Lord had displayed His great mercy toward her; and they were rejoicing with her.

⁵⁹ And it came about that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to call him Zacharias, after his father.

⁶⁰ And his mother answered and said, "No indeed; but he shall be called John."

⁶¹ And they said to her, "There is no one among your relatives who is called by that name."

⁶² And they made signs to his father, as to what he wanted him called.

⁶³ And he asked for a tablet, and wrote as follows, "His name is John." And they were all astonished.

⁶⁴ And at once his mouth was opened and his tongue *loosed*, and he *began* to speak in praise of God.

⁶⁵ And fear came on all those living around them; and all these matters were being talked about in all the hill country of Judea.

⁶⁶ And all who heard them kept them in mind, saying, "What then will this child *turn out to be*?" For the hand of the Lord was certainly with him.

⁶⁷ And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying:

⁶⁸ "Blessed *be* the Lord God of Israel, For He has visited us and accomplished redemption for His people,

⁶⁹ And has raised up a horn of salvation for us In the house of David His servant

⁷⁰ As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from of old--

⁷¹ Salvation from our enemies, And from the hand of all who hate us;

⁷² To show mercy toward our fathers, And to remember His holy covenant,

⁷³ The oath which He swore to Abraham our father,

⁷⁴ To grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, Might serve Him without fear,

⁷⁵ In holiness and righteousness before Him all our days.

⁷⁶ "And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; For you will go on before the Lord to prepare His ways;

⁷⁷ To give to His people *the* knowledge of salvation By the forgiveness of their sins,

⁷⁸ Because of the tender mercy of our God, With which the Sunrise from on high shall visit us,

⁷⁹ To shine upon those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, To guide our feet into the way of peace."

Scene 6

Matthew 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit.

¹⁹ And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man, and not wanting to disgrace her, desired to put her away secretly.

²⁰ But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for that which has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.

²¹ "And she will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins."

²² Now all this took place that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled, saying,

²³ "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which translated means, "God with us."

²⁴ And Joseph arose from his sleep, and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took *her* as his wife,

²⁵ and kept her a virgin until she gave birth to a Son; and he called His name Jesus.