

The Horn

12/19/10

Luke 1-2

10:15 service

Christmas gifts from God:

1. Preparation

2. Restoration

3. Joy

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."

4. Rectification

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.

5. Redemption

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."

⁸⁰ And the child continued to grow, and to become strong in spirit, and he lived in the deserts until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

6. Himself

¹Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth.

²This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

³And everyone was on his way to register for the census, each to his own city.

⁴Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David,

⁵in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child.

⁶While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth.

⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

⁸In the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night.

⁹And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened.

¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people;

¹¹for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

¹²"This will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest,

And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased."

¹⁵When the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds began saying to one another, "Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us."

¹⁶So they came in a hurry and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger.

¹⁷When they had seen this, they made known the statement which had been told them about this Child.

¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at the things which were told them by the shepherds.

¹⁹But Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart.

²⁰The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them.

All Scripture: NASV