

I promises will you say something and then you do it you do it if you don't do it then if it's breaking it promise I promise is something you tell somebody and then you should do it you should do it after you tell them that you are gonna do it I think a promise is something where somebody gives you their word and they're supposed to keep it well welcome back to Wednesday night Bible study I've actually missed this even though it's nice to have a break and we did get to do a little bit of traveling I certainly missed this Wednesday night evening study and as we saw in the opening clip a promise is a promise and even children understand this but it seems like as adults we get we get away from what a promise is and I was looking in the through Google mr. Google and just trying to find out how many Christian denominations there are and there are so many but I came across this which I thought is interesting somebody numbered 38,000 different Christian denominations and then sarcastically remarks good luck trying to choose the right one well we don't need to be choosing denominations in fact most denominations won't get into it now most denominations are false and really don't understand the gospel and then the preaching a false gospel what we're going to see as we study the Gospel according to Luke is the fact that the God of Israel is faithful and the gospel is actually the fulfillment of many promises that he made in the Old Testament and as we go through you're gonna see Luke's very clear grasp of these promises and that the arrival of

the Messiah is actually God keeping his promises and so one way that we can detect the true gospel is that it's going to call it's going to be cohesive with the old

testament scriptures so those people who think that the New Testament can stand alone really are not going to understand the gospel and Luke makes that abundantly clear if you missed our study on Acts

you

Luke wrote both the Gospel of Luke and the book of Acts and they go together as a single unit so it's great for us now having done Acts to now go through Luke and understand as we go through Luke that it's two volumes and he's writing toward the book of Acts I think will be interesting for us to do this also I think this is going to be great for those of us who understand the Holy Days just to really go through the gospel and the life of Christ leading up to the Passover so without any further delay let's get started all opening with prayer and looking forward to getting into our Wednesday night Bible study and the Gospel according to Luke Heavenly Father we praise you and we thank you so much father for your loving kindness toward us and we're gonna see that loving kindness father as we study the Gospel according to Luke and we just thank you so much for our Messiah we thank you for our Savior and pray Lord that you'll bless our study and help us to understand and appreciate so much more deeply this profound truth that you share with us through your servant league we ask for your blessing now in Jesus name Amen well let's get into the Gospel according to Luke and we'll begin in Luke 1 where he writes in as much as

many have taken in hand to set in order a narrative of those things which have been fulfilled among us and I'll be reading now from the New King James translation but Luke opens up his gospel saying many have done this that this is a profound happening where where Christ has come and many have already written about this day if they've taken the world traditions and they put them in narrative form and and Luke acknowledges this that many have done this but he says that these things have been fulfilled and that again is Luke Wright in the very first verse making it clear to us that there's a fulfillment that there are promises that are outstanding in the Old Testament and and the arrival of Christ is the fulfillment of these promises and so many have set an order a narrative those things that have been fulfilled among us and notice he says us the US is Israel and again we have to be very careful about any denominations or any teaching of a gospel that exclude Israel this is all about Israel and these things have been fulfilled among Israel because the promises are to Israel and God has selected Israel and the Messiah has come to Israel and so he says us now Luke is a Gentile but if you read in Ephesians 2 when Paul writes now therefore you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners but you are now fellow citizens with the Saints and members of the household of God and he writes in Romans 9 that Gentiles are grafted in to Israel so Gentiles are that are converted that have the holy spirit are every much a part of Israel as a natural born Israel Israelite with the Holy Spirit there where we're now one body and so Luke makes it clear that these things have been fulfilled among

us among the Israel of God now he says here in verse 2 just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word delivered them to us it seemed good to me also so many have done this and they were eyewitnesses and they've done all of this but Luke is now there's something wanting and he's saying this in the most gracious terms that thought the Spirit has inspired him that there's something missing and it's important for him even though many have done this he has an angle that has been overlooked and the Spirit is inspiring him to fill this gap and so he says in as much as many of them taken in hand to set in order and narrative of those things which have been fulfilled among us just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word they delivered them to us but it seemed good to me also having had perfect understanding of all things from the very beginning to write to you an orderly account so there this is really a comprehensive account now and it's two volumes it's volume 1 and - - the most excellent Theophilus so clearly a man of high stature and we saw it when we when we looked at ATS that this is most likely the the advocate for Paul the attorney for Paul is going to defend Paul who is in Rome and Theophilus meaning friend of God could actually be a code name so his identity has not revealed but but Lucas writings - that Theophilus can understand from the very beginning how everything led up to Paul being imprisoned and tried in Rome so we're going from Jerusalem to Rome and from the beginning from the arrival of the Messiah right to the Apostle Paul so again this ties into what we read in the

book of Acts now he says here the former account with acts 1 we read this one we did acts one just to show you these are two volumes that go together the former account I made both Theophilus of all that Jesus began both to do and teach so here in volume 2 he's telling us in volume 1 which we're studying now that this is an account of all that Jesus began both to do and teach and then in volume 2 it's what he continued to do and teach through the Holy Spirit through the church and specifically the apostles and specifically the Apostle Paul because this is a Gentile most likely writing to another Gentile about this wonderful work that the Messiah has done and how the Gentiles have been grafted in and Paul's ministry is an extension of Christ's ministry but here we're dealing in in Volume one with Christ's ministry so he says again in verse three that it seemed good to him that in other words there was something wanting and he's saying in the most gracious way that he now has a role to play he's actually looked at what's been written he's done the research he's probably spoken to people and he understands very comprehensively and he wants to put this together for a Theophilus and we all benefit from this as well so it seems good to him with having this perfect understanding of all things from the very first to write to you an orderly account most excellent Theophilus why that you may know the certainty of those things in which you were instructed so very clearly Theophilus is a believer he's part of the body and Luke and writing to him says us and he's given this detailed account to someone who really cares about this whole way this

whole movement and what happened from the beginning and it's important that Theophilus understands the certainty and in order to give him this certainty Luke is going to be constantly going back to the promises in the Old Testament promises that God made to the prophets specifically the promises that God made to his friend Abraham and a promise is a promise and if God breaks his promises then God is a liar and we know that it's impossible for God to lie and so Theophilus can have certainty by understanding that these are the these these the fulfillment of these things are in fact promises that were outstanding that God has now moved to fulfill his word now he begins there was in the den I just had here that that it's more than just me - he's not just everybody else has written this and so he he's writing it - no it's more than that he has an angle that he has to bring and so here he says there was in the days of Herod the king of Judea a certain priest named Zacharias now we need just need to stop right there this idea so it says here there's this King Herod he's the king of Judea now this is actually preposterous and and really we understand that Herod was an Edomite he wasn't even a Jew he was installed by the Roman Empire and so he's a puppet king of Rome and and the the the Israelites are under the oppression of Rome and and they're looking for a messiah to save them from this oppression and the idea that the idea then that Herod is the king of Judea this is ridiculous is preposterous Christ is the king of Judah and and they're looking for their Messiah their true

King to come and relieve them of this oppression and so we know from the scriptures that the physical King we wrestle not against flesh and blood the physical king is just a proxy for the devil so the devil doesn't actually just work here directly he works through men and so Herod is just an extension of the Roman Empire which is really an extension of Satan Satan is the king or the king of this world the Prince of the power of the air and he has installed Herod and the people of God are under this oppression and have been under the suppression of various pagan empires and they're looking to their Messiah as prophesied by Daniel as prophesied by Isaiah someone who's going to come and break the change and relieve them of this satanic oppression and restore their place in the in the order of things and so at this time Herod Luke begins his gospel by saying Herod is the king of Judea and at the same time now he's going to introduce the true king of Judea at this time there was a certain priest named Zacharias he says here of the division of Abijah now there were 24 divisions and these priests served twice a year once in the first half of the year once in the second half of the year and it's not the purpose of the study today but you can actually do a study of these different divisions and so zechariah and his wife Elizabeth are going to conceive John during the course of Abia and he's going to serve there and so you can count from their six months before Christ is then conceived through through the Holy Spirit with Mary and then three months later John is born and then six months after that Christ is

born and long story short this is one way that we can make it very very clear that Christ was not born on Christmas Day so December 25th is a pagan holiday it's the celebration of Nimrod not the celebration of Christ from from tracking this from the time of the spring when or the course of Abia when when Christ when John was conceived we can track all the way and understand very clearly Christ was born in the autumn most likely at the Feast of Tabernacles Tabernacles meaning dwelling that God dwells with God emanuelle so most likely he was born at the time of Tabernacles not on Christmas Day in any case I didn't want to get into that but just it can't be proven very clearly and very technically from this course of Abia the division of Abijah when John was conceived when John was born when Christ was conceived and when Christ was born and it's not Christmas Day his wife was of the daughters of Aaron so she's from the high priest Aaron and her name was Elizabeth and they were both righteous before God walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blamelessly perfect they sinned just like everybody else but they walked in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord and they were blameless so when you look at the Book of Leviticus God makes it very clear to Israel how did dwell faithfully with him how to handle sin whether it's a unwitting sin or unknowing if you don't know that you've sinned or you've sinned but it didn't mean to send all of this is dealt with through the righteousness of God and the books of Leviticus and the Torah and so they were following all of this and because of that they were blameless and God always has a faithful remnant so



this is now 400 years after malachi prophesied and and at the time of Malachi's prophecy Israel was incredibly faithless but even then malachi made it clear that there was a remnant that were faithful and and and there's always a faithful remnant and and this is it here so here we have this faithful remnant even though it's 400 years Israel is demoralized they're underpaid and oppression they're not following God but there are people among them who are faithful to the Torah but they had no child so most people would see childlessness as a curse clearly that's not a curse of sin here these people are blameless before God but by God's design have no child because Elizabeth was barren and they were both well advanced in years so it looks like they're not gonna have children nobody's expecting them to have children she's past the childbearing years so it was that while he was serving as priest before God in the order of his division as the order of Abita according to the custom of the priesthood his lot fell to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord and the whole multitude of the people was praying outside at the hour of incense so they were following again Israel as this these people is Nations holy nation that has been set aside by God and they are following these customs they they have the the God of Israel with them and all the people are praying outside at the hour of incense then an angel of the Lord appeared to him an angel of the Lord appeared to him standing on the right side of the altar of incense and when Zechariah saw him so Zechariah is inside the temple Zechariah saw him he was troubled and fear fell upon him as it would so you know on a

regular basis we don't interact with the the angelic world but here this angel appears to Zechariah and he's terrified so fear fell upon him but the angel said to him do not be afraid Zechariah for your prayer is heard it's it harkens back to Daniel when this same angel Gabriel appeared to Daniel Daniel was afraid but it Gabriel encouraged him and and told him that his prayer has been answered same case here and our our Muslim brothers and sisters want us to believe that this same Gabriel appeared to Mohammed but when that angel it being whatever that was appeared to Muhammad as this angel it was violent and it terrified Muhammad and it strangled him and forced him to read and and had no connection to the Torah and no connection to the promises in the Torah it just strangled him and oppressed him and terrified him and forced him to want to commit suicide and then forced him to read this thing this revelation that they called the Quran and and the behavior here of this angel in Gabriel is consistent as he appears here to Zechariah as he will appear to Mary as he did appear to Daniel and and it's not a violent being it's a comfort in being and so as these powerful angels of God interact with men who are blessed by God they're not here to terrify they're they're here to deliver a message angel means messenger they're here to deliver a message and to do so with comfort and reassurance so this is a righteous man Zachariah so he says do not be afraid Zechariah for your prayer is heard and your wife Elizabeth even though she's advanced in years very similar to Sarah and Abraham she will bury you a son and you shall call his name John so this name of John the

Baptist is actually given by God and it's not something that Zachariah chose for his son it's something that God chose for his son his name will be John and you will have joy and gladness and many will rejoice at his birth so God blesses the faithful and he may not do it right away he may not do it when you're in your 20s or 30s but God has his eyes on the righteous and certainly here Zechariah and Elizabeth even though they're advanced in years are going to be incredibly blessed with joy and gladness why because he will be great in the sight of the Lord and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink he will also be filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb so so while he's in Elizabeth's womb he's gonna be filled with the Holy Spirit in the womb this is quite miraculous and then as he's born and he grows up he'll never touch wine nor strong drink and this harkens back to Leviticus and numbers

Leviticus with the priesthood they're instructed do not drink wine or intoxicating drink you know your sons with you when you go into the tabernacle of meeting lest you die it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations

so John coming as a priest to fulfill this in Leviticus but also there's the Nazarite vow in number six he shall separate himself from wine and similar drink he shall drink neither vinegar made from wine or vinegar made from similar drink neither shall he drink any grape juice nor eat fresh grapes or raisins all the days of his separation he shall eat nothing that is produced by the grape vine from seed to skin so normally this is a temporary vow that that an Israelite male might make this

Nazarite vow and during the vow they do not touch anything made of the vine but in this case John is set aside from the womb to serve God in this very special way for his entire life coming back then to Luke and verse 16 and he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God and then that might sound like a pleasant Duty but it was probably very difficult because Israel were a rebellious people and so for John to do this there would be a lot of conflict most likely here as he interacts with this rebellious nation but he's going to turn according to the prophecy many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God and just as a side note here in the Greek the word Lord is kurios in the Hebrew it's Yahweh in the Septuagint it's kurios so so this this Lord here in the New Testament in the Greek kurios is the same Yahweh in the Torah in the Old Testament and the prophets and curing the same kurios in the Septuagint the Greek translation of the Old Testament he will also go before him that is the Lord in the spirit and power of Elijah to turn the hearts of the father's to the children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just to make ready a people prepared for the Lord and this the outstanding a promise at the end of the Old Testament with the Prophet Malachi showing up to the nation of Israel and using them of their faithlessness but then showing them that God will come to them and in Malachi 4 verse 4 he he just tells those who are faithful remember the law of Moses my servant which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel so don't forget the torah with the statutes and the judgments

behold I will send you I will come  
through this is a promise I will send  
you Elijah the Prophet before the coming  
of the Great and dreadful day of the  
Lord and he will turn the hearts of the  
father's to the children and the hearts  
of the children to their fathers lest I  
come and strike the earth with a curse  
so God has this nation of Israel that  
are set up to be a nation of kings and  
priests and even though they are  
faithless God is faithful God has a  
covenant with this people because of his  
promise to Abraham and so he's gonna  
send this messenger to prepare a people  
for God so that when God comes into the  
earth he has a people to come to and to  
to work with to then bring righteousness  
to the whole earth and in Malachi 3 he  
says behold I will send my messenger so  
there's a messenger that God will send  
and he's promising this this is a  
promise I promise you I will send you my  
messenger and he this messenger will  
prepare the way before me that is God so  
the messenger comes first that is the  
second Elijah and then when he comes God  
comes he will prepare the way before me  
and the Lord Yahweh or in the Septuagint  
Priora kurios the Lord whom you seek  
will suddenly come to his temple even  
the messenger of the Covenant and and  
and Malachi when he came he really  
roasted the people of God the Israelites  
because of their faithlessness to the  
Covenant and their faithlessness even to  
their covenant of marriage they didn't  
understand how  
it is that when you give your word you  
keep it and here we have God as this  
faithful messenger of the Covenant in  
whom you delight behold he is coming  
says the Lord of Hosts but when he comes  
who can endure the day of his coming and

who can stand when he appears for he is like a refiners fire and he is like the launderers soap he will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver he will purify the sons of Levi and purge them as gold and silver and again God has not rejected Israel and and God God has set aside his people in a covenant promise and even though they are faithless he's going to restore them he's going to restore them because of his promise to Abraham and so you know when he comes this nation of Israel will have to be purified and we're going to see this as we go through Luke they're in for a rough ride they are in for a very rough ride but that's just part of the process of this dear ocation process and we see it in the prophecies of Zechariah we see it in the prophecies of Isaiah we see this in the prophecies of Jeremiah that God has not abandon his covenant but in keeping his covenant he will have to punish and refine Israel to restore them to their proper state their proper representation of the God of Israel their proper role as kings and priests under the true king and the true priest Jesus Christ so he will purge he's not going to reject them and again our Islamic brothers and sisters want us to believe that God has rejected Israel he's cursed them he's turned them into Apes and pigs and instead he's chosen Arabs this is not what the prophecies say the prophecies say he has chosen Israel and he's going to restore them and purge them as gold and silver why so that they may offer to the Lord and offering in righteousness so they are faithless they have not kept the Covenant but God is faithful and he keeps the Covenant and because of this promise he's going to restore them

so that they may offer to the Lord and offering and righteous then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasant to the Lord so it's not pleasant now wasn't Pleasant in the time of Malachi it's not pleasant when Christ arrives it's not pleasant when Christ is crucified and it's not going to be pleasant when he returns but when he returns he's going to be that that process of him returning is going to be a purification process for Israel and Israel will be restored as the rightful king priest nation to lead the whole world to righteousness God is going to use Israel to as a blessing to all the families of the earth and that's that's his promise and as a lot of people have difficulty with this we need to be humble and just accept what God is doing so at this time the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasant to the Lord as in the days of old when they were faithful as in the former years so that's all the prophecy in Malachi that Luke is referring to and heartening to hear and Zechariah said to the angel how will I know this for I am an old man and my wife is well advanced in years and again this is sort of allusion to to Abraham who had a similar reaction and the angel answered and said to him I am Gabriel who stands in the presence of God so I'm representing God and I'm coming with a message from God and I was sent to speak to you and bring you this good news but behold you will be made mute and not able to speak until the day these things take place why because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time so we're gonna see now that from this point Zechariah is unable to speak until all these things are fulfilled and then his

speech will be restored and the people  
they remember everybody was outside the  
people waited rose acharya and marveled  
that he lingered so long in the temple  
but when he came out he couldn't speak  
to them and they perceived that he had  
seen a vision  
in the temple for he beckoned to them  
and remained speechless so he was  
completely unable to speak his voice was  
just gone  
and this is a priestess and someone  
who's constantly serving God with his  
voice and suddenly it's just gone and so  
he's able to easy you know communicating  
with them through sign language and they  
get the sense that something has  
happened inside the temple so it was  
soon after the the days of his service  
were completed that he departed to his  
own house so now he's back to his home  
he's left the temple he's finished his  
course and now he's gone back to his  
home now after those days his wife  
Elizabeth conceived so this is again  
this we can calculate when John was born  
and when Christ was born  
based on the fact that we know this  
specific week that Zechariah was serving  
in the temple now after those days his  
wife Elizabeth conceived and she hid  
herself five months saying thus the Lord  
has dealt with me in the days when he  
looked upon me to take away my reproach  
among the people so she really couldn't  
believe it  
and maybe just wanted to be really sure  
that this is gonna happen and so she hid  
herself for five months now in the sixth  
month the angel Gabriel was sent by God  
to a city of Galilee named Nazareth so  
first he is with Zechariah now he's gone  
to Nazareth to go to Mary to a virgin  
betrothed to a man engaged to a man



whose name was Joseph of the house of David the Virgin's name was Mary and having come in the angel said to her rejoice highly favored one the Lord is with you blessed are you among women so very critical here that this is from the house of David and again this this opened up with a Herod as the king of Judea but we know the promises are that God is going to raise up a king of the descendants of David and so very important that the genealogy here can be traced back to King David so it goes on to say the Virgin's name was Mary and having come in the angel said to her rejoice highly favored one the Lord is with you blessed are you really understatement here but blessed are you among women but when she saw him she was troubled at his saying and considered what manner of greeting this was then the angel said to her do not be afraid again every time Gabriel appears this powerful angel whenever he appears to human beings he's always comforting he's always reassuring and he's always coming with a message from God that fulfills the previous messages from God he never comes with a brand new message that doesn't make any sense he never comes with force and subjugation he comes with peace and messages that show God fulfilling his promises from the ancient text for you have found favor with God and behold you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a son and shall call his name Jesus or Joshua or God saves or salvation so so John was named by God and Jesus is named by God so this is what you're going to call him God saves Jesus he will be great and will be called the son of the highest so so here we have in in Mary

the Gabriel is making it very clear God the Creator is coming into his creation and a lot of people can't get their heads around this but God is very clear from the very beginning this has been prophesied and Gabriel is coming to Mary saying these prophecies that are outstanding are going to be fulfilled in you and the Son of God is going to be born through you and the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David so Gabriel comes with a message to Mary that points back to the outstanding promises the word that came out of God's mouth to say this is what I'm going to do I'm going to raise up a king through the line of David

Gabriel tells Mary you're going to have this King because this King is going to reign forever and again this this notion that Gabriel is going to come with a message that makes no sense that has no tie-in to the previous scriptures and completely negates these promises that God made to David that his son would reign over Israel forever and he will reign over the house of David he will reign over the house of Jacob forever

that means Jacob will be forever and this son of David will be forever so it's impossible to have a theology from God that says we have to destroy every Jew we have to completely destroy the house of Jacob and we have no regard for the promises made to David no this is very clear God fulfills his word he will reign over the house of Jacob forever and his kingdom of his kingdom there will be no end

that again is harkening back to Isaiah where these are prophecies that have that the Israelites that hear the Jews were waiting they knew these

scriptures how long will lord before you send the messiah and you fulfill these scriptures why are we being brutalized and oppressed and and abused by these pagan kings and these pagan nations when we have these prophecies and god is waiting and waiting and he sends malachi finally and then there's 400 years of silence and then finally all the prophecies now are being fulfilled look at jeremiah 23 behold the days are coming says the lord that i will raise to david a branch of righteousness a king shall reign and prosper and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth so they were looking for this king where the days are coming where is he from they're from the house of David Isaiah 11 there shall come forth a rod from the stem of Jesse and a branch shall grow out of his roots the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him whoever this is the Spirit of the Lord will rest upon him the spirit of wisdom and understanding the spirit of counsel and might the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord his delight is in the fear of the Lord and he shall not judge by the sight of his eyes like these pagan corrupt Kings nor decide by the hearing of his ears but with righteousness he shall judge the poor and decide with equity for the meek of the earth he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked righteousness shall be the belt of his loins and faithfulness the belt of his way so where is he they've been searching they've been waiting false messiahs have come and gone they're being oppressed they're seeing their loved ones being destroyed how long O Lord and finally all these prophecies a

promise is a promise  
finally all these promises to Israel are  
now coming to fruition as Luke opened  
the fulfillment of all these things  
among us verse 34 in Luke 1 then Mary  
said to the angel how can this be so she  
was puzzled since I do not know a man so  
if she's betrothed to Joseph but these  
are righteous people these are this is a  
faithful remnant they're not involved in  
any sort of sinfulness or fornication  
and so how can this be and the angel  
answered and said to her the Holy Spirit  
will come upon you  
and so these Jews that have always been  
familiar the the people of Israel have  
always been familiar with the Holy  
Spirit the Holy Spirit is not something  
new it's something that's been with  
Israel from the very beginning but this  
Holy Spirit will come upon you and the  
power of the highest will overshadow you  
therefore also that Holy One who is to  
be born will be called the Son of God so  
God Himself is going to conceive through  
Mary's womb his son and when he's born  
this is the son of God this Luke is  
making it very very clear from the  
beginning he  
gonna put these two volumes together for  
Theophilus but he's making it very very  
clear from the beginning God has visited  
Israel God has come into the earth to  
his people Israel to fulfill all these  
promises that were out and outstanding  
and so the Creator the Son of God is  
coming into the earth now indeed  
Elizabeth your relative has also  
conceived a son in her old age and this  
is now the sixth month for her who was  
called barren for with God nothing will  
be impossible so he reassures her  
explains to her that John has already  
been conceived six months ago and now

she's going to conceive Jesus then Mary said Behold the maidservant of the Lord let it be to me according to your word and the angel departed from her that's Gabriel now and again Gabriel is faithful to God he's the Messenger of God and so he comes with a message from God which obviously is going to be faithful to the previous messages from God so there's this full integration between what we see in the New Testament and what we see in the Old Testament there's not this sort of brand new theology coming out of nowhere it's a complete integration and fulfillment of the previous promises so Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste she was full of joy that that her her cousin I believe it is her relative Elizabeth has conceived have been blessed in her old age no doubt they were most most likely praying for each other praying for each other and and wanted to see God's blessing so she went to Judah and entered into the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth and it happened when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary that the babe John leaped in her womb so remember Luke wrote earlier that even in the womb John will be full of the Holy Spirit so so while he's in the womb he's full of the Holy Spirit Elizabeth comes conceived with Christ and he recognized that God is in his presence and he leaps for joy that God has come into the earth and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit so she also has the Holy Spirit and she's full of it then she spoke out with Allah and remember Zechariah is mute so he's unable to tell Mary of his encounter with Gabriel and and kind of cross-reference her encounter with it he can't talk

so now Elizabeth speaks oh and she's inspired by the Holy Spirit she spoke out with a loud voice and said blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb so she full of the holy spirit knows what has happened to Mary and tells her that you are blessed and blessed is the fruit of your womb but why is this granted to me that the mother of my lord should come to me so again Luke is making it very clear that these righteous people understand the divinity that is in Mary's womb and Elizabeth is so honored that the mother of her Lord the mother of the Son of God should come to her for indeed as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears so as soon as I heard your greeting the babe leaped in my womb for joy so this baby that I'm carrying recognized who you are blessed is she who believed for there will be a fulfillment again the fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord it's impossible for God to lie when God makes a promise he keeps it and so there's going to be this fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord and Mary said my soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior

so she recognizes that God is her Savior for he has regarded the lowly state of his maidservant so so God um Mary here is a poor individual she's not wealthy and we'll see that later from the offerings that she and her husband make they're not wealthy people but God has regarded them and then I think sometimes we see the wealthy people of the world and we think that they are truly blessed and they're not they're not we're only blessed if God blesses us and he it is not looking for wealth he's looking for

righteousness and here Mary is truly blessed for behold from now on all generations will call me blessed of that there is no doubt that God has chosen her as the vehicle through which his son will come into creation into the world for he who is mighty has done great things for me and holy is his name and his mercy is on those who fear Him again harkening back to Malachi chapter three the faithful his mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation he has shown strength with his arm and and this it harkens back to prophecy in Isaiah but who has seen the arm of the Lord he has shown strength with his arm he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts and this is exactly what Israel is looking for that they are participating from from pagan nation to pagan nation from pagan oppression or presser for to pagan oppressor from pagan king to pagan king all puppets of the devil have been subjugating humiliating and destroying the people of God and now God is acting finally and he's going to scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts and just you know you don't want to be on the wrong side of God you want to read the scriptures and get on the right side of God and so he's gonna scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts they think that their power will last forever no it's going to be vanquish'd and then God is going to raise up Israel the Israel of God to bring those who are willing to repent to God he has put down the mighty from their thrones and again we're starting here with Herod sitting on the throne but it's not about Herod we wrestle not against flesh and blood

it's the devil the devil is on a throne  
and Christ is coming to vanquish that  
throne and to destroy the the same  
vision that Daniel saw of all of these  
beginning with Nebuchadnezzar which  
actually goes back to Nimrod all of  
these pagan rulers subjugating the  
people of God God is coming to the  
Messiah's coming to vanquish this and to  
restore Israel and exalt the lowly so  
he's gonna knock this knock over the  
oppressors and exalt the lowly he has  
filled the hungry with good things and  
the rich he has sent away empty again  
God we have to be able to see things the  
way God does a lot of people are caught  
up by flashing lights and glitter and  
and and apparent wealth and apparent  
power we've got to see through all of  
this and see the Messiah and see the  
world that is coming and so here this  
present evil age has really come to an  
end it this is the beginning of the end  
when when the Messiah comes into the  
earth this is the beginning of the end  
when he actually is crucified that's the  
end of this present evil world and the  
beginning of the new creation so here he  
has sent the rich away empty he has  
helped his servant Israel who has he  
helped who has he helped and we have to  
really be rooted in this understanding  
that the promise of God is to Israel God  
identifies himself thousands of times  
thousands of times in the Old Testament  
as the God of Israel and all people must  
come to know that God is the God of  
Israel and if you want to serve God  
you've got to serve the god of is  
it's very plain he has helped his  
servant Israel in remembrance of his  
mercy when God makes a promise he keeps  
it the same way we saw in the Old  
Testament with Egypt that God made a



promise to Israel and he and they cried out and finally God heard their cries and he acted to save Israel and he brought them through this powerful Passover / Exodus process and he brought them out of their oppression and now we're going to see a new Passover and a new Exodus process that Luke is going to take us through he in remembrance of his mercy as he spoke to our fathers a promise is a promise so the same way he spoke to our fathers to Abraham and to his seed forever God has not cast off Israel any theology any denomination any ideology that tries to portray God as a God that has cast off Israel as a God that has forgotten his people is projecting God as a liar is projecting God as weak and unable to fulfill his promises we have to be very very clear God is the God of Israel and the church is the Israel of God the church is Israel whether Jew or Gentile its Israel Gentiles are grafted into this this Israel so these promises that God spoke to Abraham and to Abraham's seed are forever and Mary remained with her about three months so right up until the time that John should be born and then returned to her house now so obviously she wasn't yet married but she was betrothed now Elizabeth's full time came for her to be delivered so shortly after Mary leaves - coming up to the ninth month now or were in the ninth month and she time for her to be delivered and she brought forth a son when her neighbors and relatives heard how the Lord had shown great mercy to her they rejoiced with her and that's what we always want to see is people who rejoice with our Blessed and so here these people were so so happy for her so it was on the eighth

day that they came to circumcise the child so again showing a Lukas showing here this is a faithful remnant of Israel these are faithful Jews and they're faithful to the Torah and so as the Torah instructs on the eighth day they circumcise the child and they would have called him by the name of his father Zechariah so that obviously was the custom here that when you have the firstborn male most likely takes on the father's name so they're about to call him Zechariah his mother answered and said remember she's full of the Holy Spirit no he shall be called John but they said to her this is breaking all customs there is no one among your relatives who was called by this name why would you call him John that's odd so they made signs to his father what he would have him call to Zechariah again is mute but it's the father who should decide that yes he should be called by my name so they want to overrule Elizabeth I don't know what you're thinking Elizabeth but John is that's odd or like that that's not in your family line I will just clear this up right right now with Zechariah what should he be called and so Zechariah then asked for a writing tablet so obviously they had some kind of technology back then and he asked for this writing tablet and wrote saying his name is John so they all marveled immediately so remember that the promise that Gabriel said is you're gonna be mute until all these things are fulfilled so now he says his name is John there if there's like whoa this is amazing immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed and he spoke praising God so this is the first things that come

out of his mouth he's praising the God of Israel then fear came on all those who dwelt around them and all these sayings were discussed throughout all the hill country of Judea so this was a great great event and it was just big news everybody was speaking about this all through the country of Judea and all those that heard them kept them in their hearts saying what kind of child will this be so this is just an amazing miraculous event and so clearly everybody knows this child is special so there's no question the child is special the question now is is how special what kind of man is this child going to grow up into and the hand of the Lord was with him now

his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit so Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit Zechariah is now filled with the Holy Spirit his son John was filled with the Holy Spirit from inside the womb so now he's boring he's filled with the Holy Spirit

very very righteous family but Zechariah now under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit is now going to prophesy notice like Gabriel like Mary like Elizabeth everyone who is operating under the influence of the Holy Spirit is faithful to the text the Holy Spirit never goes against the Holy Spirit so the Holy Spirit inspired the ancient prophets and what they wrote inspired by the Holy Spirit Gabriel is not going to come and negate and ignore that these servants these other prophets are not going to come in fact Paul says since in 1st Corinthians 14 that the Spirit of the prophets is subject to the prophets because it's the same Holy Spirit so now Zechariah is going to prophesy by

the Holy Spirit he's full of the Holy Spirit and he prophesies and says blessed is the Lord God pardon me for emphasizing this year I'm going to be emphasizing this as we go through the text because there's just so much false doctrine out there not only in in non-christian Sack and ideologies but in the Christian world as well the goddess forsaken Israel God identifies himself thousands of times as the God of Israel forever and and he's looking to restore the Israel of God and that's the whole point of the Messiah coming is to restore the Israel of God so that the whole world can be blessed as he promised to Abraham so here he prophesized blessed is the Lord God of Israel why for he has visited and what has he done redeemed his people Gentiles are not in the equation yet this is all about the Messiah coming to fulfill all these outstanding promises to Israel that they will be redeemed they're looking for their redeemer and so Christ comes or a Christ is coming to redeem Israel and John is the messenger to proclaim that the Messiah is coming and so God is faithful a promise is a promise and Zechariah full of the Holy Spirit is basically saying God is faithful and this is how Theophilus can have certainty can have absolute conviction and understanding of these things regardless of the pressure regardless of the opposition when he's up there in the the Roman courts he can have conviction and understanding that all of these things are happening because God is fulfilling his word and nobody no one not even a being as powerful as the devil can frustrate the Word of God he's really he's visited and redeemed his

people according to the prophecies and has raised up a horn of salvation for us we're in the house of his servant David again harkening back to the prophecy look at 2nd chronicles 7 verse 18 then I will establish the throne of your kingdom that's David start Sullivan as I covenant it with David your father saying you shall not fail to have a man as a ruler in Israel so Israel is set up to rule with God and for God forever Adam was made in the image of God that is the purpose of human beings to portray the image of God he was given dominion to be a king and he was also to be a priest to facilitate the worship of God he failed so God then chose Abraham and Abraham became this this image of God this King priest and this covenant was made with Abraham to establish his family as the king priests of the earth that they would rule over the earth with God as the Israel of God and they would be priests to facilitate the dog they are all human beings all families of the earth coming to God coming into the Israel of God and so this promise then to David is forever to be a ruler in Israel to have a man sit on his throne forever God has not abandoned Israel in fact the whole point of the Messiah coming is to redeem Israel the Lord has so so's here in Psalm 132 verse 11 the same we see the same thing David writes the Lord has sworn in truth to David he will not turn from it no don't believe anybody who comes along telling you to throw away your Bible throw away the promises that God made forget what the prophets of ancient of old have said no way when God speaks he means it he created everything with his word and when he makes a promise he keeps it and so here the Lord has sworn in truth to

David and he will not turn from it he will never turn from it so how can you have an ideology or any kind of religion that forgets the promises that were made to David I will set upon your throne the fruit of your body and here in Isaiah 9 Isaiah prophesies of the increase of his government and peace this coming ruler of the increase of his government there will be no end he's going to rule forever the Messiah will rule forever upon the throne of David and over his kingdom the of Israel to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward even forever so we can't forget these promises God has outstanding promises and Luke is now showing through the words of the prophecies of Zechariah that God is now acting after 400 years of silence God is now acting in the midst of Roman oppression God is now acting to redeem Israel and to place this seed of David on the throne forever and the zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this God is just so excited that he's going to perform this and then coming back to Luke as he spoke by the mouth so it's a Cariah saying as he spoke by the mouth of the holy prophets his holy prophets who have been since the world began so from the very beginning these prophecies have been in play that we should be saved from our enemies we Israel the Israel of God will be saved from these pagan oppressive nations these nations will be broken and scattered and vanquished and the Israel of God will be set up and all nations will flow to the Israel of God in Jerusalem and they will come to learn of his ways of his laws of the truth and the this veil will be broken and they'll come to see that God is the God of

Israel

yes he's come to save us from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us so if you hate Israel you've got a problem you've got a problem because God loves Israel God is married to Israel and God has all these promises to Israel that he will fulfill to perform the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy Covenant God remembers his covenant he will not break his covenant and remember what Luke wrote at the very beginning of the gospel to Theophilus that you may know the certainty of those things which you were instructed and again I just love this oh I'm sorry I thought you meant what you promised and not keeping a promise is the same as lying and so he goes on to say here that you may know the certainty that God will the reason you can know the certainty is God's made a promise and he's going to keep it again in verse 73 the oath which he swore to our father Abraham and we see that oath in Genesis 12 when God promised that he will bless Abraham and make his name great and in verse 3 the last part that in Abraham all the families of the earth will be blessed that is a promise and the way that he fulfills that promise is the set up Israel this this weak nation that he chose to set them up as the king priests of God this holy nation and look at Hebrews 4 when God made a promise to Abraham because he could swear by no one greater he swore by himself so he made a promise and he was so as Ellis to fulfill this promise and to have Abraham believed that he would fulfill it that in addition to the promise he swore an oath by himself because there was nothing greater than he could swear by saying surely blessing will

bless you and multiplying I will  
multiply you  
and so after Abraham had patiently  
iturra  
endured he obtained the promise for men  
indeed swear by the greater and an oath  
for confirmation for them that end all  
dispute the verse 17 thus god  
determining to show more abundantly to  
the heirs of promise the immutability of  
his counsel confirmed it by an oath so  
his count these promises cannot change  
don't believe anybody who comes along  
and says that God has forsaken Israel  
it's immutable there's this promise that  
he has made to Abraham which is went to  
Isaac which then went to Israel it's  
nobody can change it nobody is more  
powerful than God to to break this  
promise that by two immutable things so  
two things that are unchangeable  
one is the promise of God when God makes  
a promise it cannot be changed the  
second is the oath that he swore on top  
of the promise which said two immutable  
things got promised and an oath in which  
it is impossible for God to lie we might  
have strong consolation and this is how  
Theophilus can have certainty of those  
things which have been fulfilled because  
it's all based on the Word of God and  
the promises in the oath and the  
Covenant of God who have fled for refuge  
to lay hold of the hope set before us  
and and again in Exodus when when Israel  
was when God covenant with Israel the  
purpose of that Mosaic Covenant was to  
fulfill the Covenant that God made with  
Abraham and to make this people a  
kingdom of priests and a holy nation and  
and they failed and so God says okay  
forget this Mosaic Covenant I'm gonna  
now have a new covenant and I'm gonna  
fill Israel and Judah with my Holy



Spirit and now as a church they're going to become a peculiar nation same king priests and we see this in Revelation same king priest in order to lead to rule over the world and to lead the world to God so wrapping up now in Luke verse 74 last few verses Zechariah prophesized to grant us that we being delivered from the hand of our enemies that is Israel so when when Christ returns and this is going to be some bit controversial because they're not expecting the Messiah to come twice they're just expecting them to come once as this powerful King and subdue the enemies they don't realize that he has to come as a lamb and he has to be slaughtered and that is in fact how he subdues the enemies of God but that's that's what we'll come to that later but here the prophecy is that Israel will be delivered from all of these pagan nations these Gentile nations these these these puppets of the devil who hate Israel they're going to be delivered so that they may serve him without fear and we saw that earlier in the first Exodus that the the people of God Moses went to Pharaoh to bring Israel out from the oppression of the Pharaoh out from the oppression of Egypt out from the oppression of sin so that they could go into the wilderness keep the feasts of the Lord and serve him without fear and so we're going to now see a new Passover in Christ and a new Exodus in Christ where the people are going to come out from under the enemy enemies hand of oppression and they're going we're going to be able to to serve God without fear so this second Exodus is going to be the great Exodus in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of

our life and you child will be called  
he's now talking to his son John you  
will be called the prophet of the  
highest why because you will go before  
the face of kurios Yahweh the God of  
Israel the creator you will go before  
the face of the Lord to prepare his ways  
to give knowledge of salvation to his  
people Israel this is an Israel thing  
this is this is not you know come all  
come one come all this is about Israel  
and the promises to Israel and the only  
way to God is through Israel and all  
families of the earth will be blessed in  
Israel once once these people have been  
made to be faithful to give knowledge of  
salvation to his people so that they can  
be the king priests they were meant to  
be by the remission of their sins so so  
we need this Passover lamb in order to  
remit the sins of Israel so that they  
can be restored as the people of God so  
that they can be set up as the priests  
holy priests to lead the whole world to  
this salvation through the tender mercy  
of our God so this is this is phenomenal  
and this is where we're just getting  
started now in the Gospel of Luke and  
then this is the opening chapter I'm now  
going to go to the chat  
which is at CGI org so if you if you  
want to join us for the chat you'll see  
us at the URL here so I know some people  
watch us on Facebook and YouTube and  
Roku but the chat is at CGI org slash  
webcast and as I close I'm gonna leave  
you with some words because this is all  
about the promise the faithfulness of  
God's promise and there's gonna be all  
these ideologies and all these false  
doctrines and false teachings from the  
devil to try to get us away from the  
truth of the word of God but we just  
have to be very very simple people God

said it it's true and don't let anybody  
come along and try to negate the Word of  
God as I close I'm gonna leave you with  
the words of a great leader a great  
leader and this is quoting from a book  
that he wrote a great leader but an evil  
leader we wrestle not against flesh and  
blood this evil leader is now dead and  
gone but remember these evil kings and  
rulers are just proxies for the devil  
it's really the devil working through  
human beings so let's not get fixated on  
the human beings come and go but it's  
the same devil who's trying to destroy  
the people of God so as you as I close  
now listen carefully to these words from  
Adolf Hitler that he wrote in mind Kampf  
by the principle which is quite true in  
itself that in the Big Y there is always  
a certain force of credibility because  
the broad masses of a nation are always  
more easily corrupted in the deeper  
strata of their emotional nature than  
consciously or voluntarily and thus in  
the primitive simplicity of their minds  
they more readily fall victims to the  
big lie than the small lie since they  
themselves often tell small lies in  
little matters but would be ashamed to  
resort to large-scale falsehoods it  
would never come into their heads to  
fabricate colossal untruths  
and they would not believe that others  
could have the impudence to distort the  
truth so infamously even though the  
facts which prove this to be so maybe  
brought clearly to their minds they will  
still doubt and waver and will continue  
to think that there may be some other  
explanation for the grossly impudent lie  
always leaves traces behind it even  
after it has been nailed down a fact  
which is known to all expert Liars in  
this world and to all who conspire

together in the art of law