



The Certain Gospel

Grace for Doubters

Luke 1:5-80



Zechariah the Doubter

(Luke 1:5-25)

Luke 1:13a, 17

But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John.

And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.” (NIV®)

Luke 1:18

Zechariah asked the angel, “How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years.” (NIV®)

Luke 1:19-20

The angel said to him, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time.” (NIV®)



Zechariah the Doubter

- Doubt can turn into disbelief.



Zechariah the Doubter

- Doubt can turn into disbelief.
- The consequence of disbelief is silence.



Mary the Believer

(Luke 1:26-56)

Luke 1:28b

“Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.” (NIV®)

Luke 1:31

You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.” (NIV®)

Luke 1:34

“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” (NIV®)



Mary the Believer

- Believers hear good news and have faith (despite their circumstances).

Thank you God:

- 1) ...that you are for me and not against me!
(Romans 8:31)
- 2) ...that you jealously desire relationship with me! (Deuteronomy 5:9)
- 3) ...that you just want to be with me! (John 17:24)

Thank you God:

- 4) ...that I am no longer a slave to sin, but a son and daughter in your eyes! (Galatians 4:7)
- 5) ...that because of what you did, I have confidence (and joy) to draw near your presence! (Hebrews 4:14)
- 6) ...that you have given me everything I need for life and godliness! (2 Peter 1:3)

Thank you God:

- 7) ...that you don't call me a servant, but a friend!
(John 15:15)
- 8) ...that you don't put fear on me, but have given me love, power and self-discipline!
(2 Timothy 1:7)
- 9) ...that I can consider myself dead to sin, and alive in you! (Romans 6:11)



Mary the Believer

- Believers hear good news and have faith (despite their circumstances).
- The reward of belief is hopeful praise.

Luke 1:46b-49

“My soul glorifies the Lord
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

for he has been mindful
of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed,
for the Mighty One has done great things for
me— holy is his name. (NIV®)



God offers grace to doubters.

(Luke 1:57-80)



God offers grace to doubters, hope to believers, and Jesus to all.