

eight day they came to encounter the child, and they were going to call him Zacharias, father his father, as his mother answered and said, "No, it is And they said to her, 'There is no one among your relatives who is called by that name.' And they made signs to his father, as to what he would name it. And he wrote as follows, 'His name is John.' And they were all amazed and his tongue loosed and he began to speak in praise of God, and his name on all those living were being looked about in all the hill country of Judaea. And all who heard them kept them in mind, saying, 'What then will this child come out to be?' For the hand of the Lord was certainly with him.

Zacharias' Prophecy

67 And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak of the Lord God of Israel. For he has visited us and accomplished redemption for his people. And he has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of David his servant. As he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophet John the Baptist. Salvation from our enemies, and from the hand of all who hate us. To show favor toward our fathers. And to remember his holy covenant. The oath which he swore to Abraham our father, To grant to us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High. For you will go on before the Lord to prepare his way, to give to his people the knowledge of salvation.

And the child conceived in the womb and he lived in the deserts until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

Jesus' Birth in Bethlehem

2 NOW it came about in those days that a decree went out from Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth. This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered for the census, everyone to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the town of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, in order to register, along with Mary, who was engaged to him, about that while they were there, her days were completed for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her first-born son; and she wrapped him in cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 And in the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields, and keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terribly afraid. And the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which shall be for all the people. For today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.' And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths, and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men of good will.' And it came about when the angels had gone away from them, that the shepherds went and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby who lay in the manger. And when they had seen him, they made known about him, as it had been told them about the things which were said by the shepherds. In the morning the women went back, empty-handed, for they had found the body of the child as they had heard and seen, just as had been told them.

14 Now the eyes have been opened to the presence of all peoples.

And when eight days were elapsed before his circumcision, His name was given according to the law of Moses, as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every son who is born to you shall be called after the name of the Lord.' And when the days for their purification were completed, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every first-born male of the womb shall be called after the name of the Lord.' And when the days for their purification were completed, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every first-born male of the womb shall be called after the name of the Lord.' And when the days for their purification were completed, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every first-born male of the womb shall be called after the name of the Lord.'

Jesus Presented at the Temple

22 And when eight days were elapsed before his circumcision, His name was given according to the law of Moses, as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every son who is born to you shall be called after the name of the Lord.'

27 And when the days for their purification were completed, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every first-born male of the womb shall be called after the name of the Lord.' And when the days for their purification were completed, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every first-born male of the womb shall be called after the name of the Lord.'

And when eight days were elapsed before his circumcision, His name was given according to the law of Moses, as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every son who is born to you shall be called after the name of the Lord.'

Return to Nazareth

39 And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city of Nazareth. And the Child continued to grow and become strong, increasing in wisdom, and the grace of God was upon Him.

Visit to Jerusalem

41 And his parents used to go to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when he became twelve, they went up there according to the custom of the feast. And as they were returning, accompanying the father and mother, the boy Jesus strayed behind in Jerusalem. And his parents were unaware of it, as he stayed in the temple, sitting in the midst, listening to the teachers, and asking them questions. And when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, looking for Him. And it came about that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst and asking them questions. And all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers.

Holding the Hope



## ***Holding the Hope***

### **Luke 2:25-32**

**Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout.**





## ***Holding the Hope***

**He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit**





## ***Holding the Hope***

**that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts.**





## ***Holding the Hope***

**When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:**



## *Holding the Hope*



**“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation,**

## ***Holding the Hope***



**which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.”**

**Luke 2:25-32**



## ***Holding the Hope***

### **Genesis 12:3**

**Through you all the peoples of the world will be blessed.**






***Holding the Hope***

**Luke 2:30-32**

**For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the sight  
of all nations:**



A close-up photograph of a person's face, focusing on their eyes and nose. The person has light-colored eyes and is looking slightly to the right. The image is split horizontally by two black bars containing text.

***Holding the Hope***

**a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and the glory of your people Israel.**

**Luke 2:30-32**

A close-up photograph of a person's face, focusing on the eyes and nose. The person's eyes are closed, and the nose is visible in the lower center. The skin is light-toned and has a natural texture. The background is dark, making the face stand out.

## ***Holding the Hope***

### **Luke 2:29-30**

**Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation,**

An aerial photograph of a field with a prominent red rectangular area in the center. The field is surrounded by a dark border, and there are some small white patches scattered throughout. The overall scene is somewhat desaturated and grainy.

## ***Holding the Hope***

**The only true consolation is in knowing that the Sovereign Lord has *already brought* the bringing of consolation into the world.**



## ***Holding the Hope***

### **With Simeon, the Holy Spirit...**

- 1. revealed to him (vs. 25)**
- 2. was on him (vs. 26)**
- 3. moved him (vs. 27)**