

Study of Luke 1
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Luke 1:1-80

*1 Forasmuch as many (the Apostles and disciples of Messiah) have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of **those things** which are most surely believed among us, 2 Even as they delivered them (**those things**) unto us, which from the beginning (of Messiah's ministry) were eyewitnesses, and ministers of the **WORD**;*

What Word were these Apostles and Disciples ministers of? It is obvious that they were ministers of the Words of Messiah. Therefore we have to ask ourselves, what **ARE** the Words that Messiah taught His Apostles and Disciples?

*John 5:19 Then answered Yeshua and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son **can do NOTHING of Himself, BUT** what He sees the Father do: for whatsoever things the Father does, these also does the Son do likewise. 20 For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him **ALL** things that He Himself does: and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel. 21 For as the Father raises up the dead, and quickens them; even so the Son quickens whom He will.*

*John 7:16 Yeshua answered them, and said, My doctrine is not My own, **BUT IT IS** the doctrine of the One who sent me.*

*John 12:44-50 Yeshua cried and said, He that believes me, does **NOT** only believe Me, **BUT** believes Him that sent Me. And he that sees Me, sees Him that sent Me. I am come to be a Light into the world, that whosoever believes Me should **NOT** abide in darkness. And if any man hears My Words, and does **NOT** believe them, I do **NOT** judge him: for I did **NOT** come to judge the world, **BUT** to **save** the world. He that rejects Me, and does **NOT** receive My Words, has One that judges him: the **WORD** that I have spoken, that same **WORD** shall judge him in the last day. For I have **NOT** spoken of Myself; **BUT** I have spoken the Words of My Father who sent Me, He gave Me a Commandment, of what I should **SAY**, and what I should **speak**. And I know that His Commandment **IS LIFE EVERLASTING**: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto Me, so I speak.*

*John 14:31 But, so that the world may **know** that I love the Father; and as the Father gave Me Commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go hence.*

Now since Messiah says, that the Words of the Doctrine that He spoke, **WERE** the **WORDS** of the Doctrine of His Father, we have to ask ourselves, **WHAT ARE** the Words and the Doctrine of our our heavenly Father that He gave Messiah, His only begotten Son, to speak?

*Proverbs 3:1-6 My Son, do **NOT** forget My Torah; but let Your heart **keep** (Shamar, guard) My Commandments:*

WHY?

For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to you.

*Do **NOT** let mercy and **TRUTH** (Torah, Psalm 119:142z) forsake You: bind them about Your neck; write them upon the table of Your heart:*

WHY?

In doing so You shall find favour and good understanding in the sight of Elohim and man.

TRUST in YHVH with all Your heart; and **DO NOT** lean on Your own understanding. In all Your ways acknowledge Him,

WHY?

Because if you do, He shall direct Your paths.

*Proverbs 4:1-2 Hear, My children, the instruction of your Father, and attend to know understanding. For I give you **GOOD DOCTRINE, DO NOT FORSAKE MY TORAH.***

This is but two of the many places in Scripture that our heavenly Father admonishes us to believe, follow and obey the Words of His Torah of Life and why.

*Verse 3 It seemed good to me also, having had **perfect***

(Akribos, Strong's number G199 ἀκριβῶς, akribōs, pronounced, ak-ree-boce, it is an adverb from the same as 196; and it means exactly, circumspectly, diligently, perfectly)

*Having had **perfect** understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto you in order, most excellent Theophilus,*

*(Theos means Elohim, and Philus means lover or friend, therefore His name means lover or friend of Elohim, and **IF** this Theophilus is indeed a lover or friend of Elohim, it means that he believes, follows and obeys the Words of His Torah of Life, or else he would **NOT** be a lover or friend of Elohim.)*

Verse 4 So that you, Theophilus, might know the certainty of those things, wherein you have been instructed.

Luke is writing these words to Theophilus so that he can better understand the Words of the written Torah, that were given to Moses at Mount Sinai, and that Messiah and all His Apostles and Disciples are now teaching, and **NOT be deceived** by the words of the oral torah, or any other man made doctrine of the man made religion of the day, which in this case **IS** Judaism, but it represents **ALL** the man made religions of the world, and their false man made doctrines. For they are doctrines that would have you believe that the Words of the Father's *inerrant* and *everlasting* Torah of Life, have somehow been changed or done away with, in whole or in part.

Verse 5 There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea a certain priest named Zacharias,

(זכריהו, Zakar Yahu, or זכריה, Zakar Yah, where the word Zakar means to remember,

to speak and act on behalf of, and the Word Yah, is a short form of the Name Yahweh, therefore Zakaryah's name, means, to speak and act on behalf of Yahweh, or it could mean, Yahweh will speak and act on your behalf)

Of the course of Abia:

What does the fact that Zacharias is from the course of Abia tell us. What does Luke want us to understand by giving us this bit of information?

Luke wants us to know and understand that there were two courses of priest that served in the Temple every month, and there are twenty four courses of priests; which means that the priests service in the Temple for a period of one month, every year. Now in *1Chronicles 24:7-19* it says: *Now the **first** lot came forth to Jehoiarib, the **second** to Jedaiah, The **third** to Harim, the **fourth** to Seorim, The **fifth** to Malchijah, the **sixth** to Mijamin, The **seventh** to Hakkoz, the **eighth** to **ABIJAH**, The **ninth** to **YESHUA**, the **tenth** to Shecaniah, The **eleventh** to Eliashib, the **twelfth** to Jakim, The **thirteenth** to Huppah, the **fourteenth** to Jeshebeab, The **fifteenth** to Bilgah, the **sixteenth** to Immer, The **seventeenth** to Hezir, the **eighteenth** to Apses, The **nineteenth** to Pethahiah, the **twentieth** to Jehezkel, The **one and twentieth** to Jachin, the **two and twentieth** to Gamul, The **three and twentieth** to Delaiah, the **four and twentieth** to Maaziah. These were the orderings of them in their service to come into the house of YHVH, according to their manner, under Aaron their father; as YHVH the Elohim of Israel had Commanded him.*

Now since YHVH had told Israel that the beginning of months for them was to be in the month of Aviv, which is the month that we are to celebrate the Passover, and since there were two courses of priests that served in the temple for a one month period at a time, that means that Zacharias, who was of the eighth course, was serving in the temple in and for the fourth month, and since the Month of Aviv coincides with, sometime late in the month of March or sometime in April; that therefore means that Zacharias was serving in the Temple in the fourth month which would be sometime late in June or early in July. This time line becomes important later.

Furthermore, I find, that the fact, that the courses of priests, are given to us in *2Chronicles 24:7*, very interesting, and I believe that through this number, YHVH is giving us a hint as to what He expects from us. Scripture tells us that YHVH wants us to become a kingdom of priest and a holy nation, and since the names of the courses of priests are given to us in *2Chronicles 24:7*, I believe that YHVH is telling us that we, as a kingdom of priests and a holy nation are to try and be on our best behaviour **TWENTY FOUR SEVEN**, and the only way to do that, the only way to be on our best behaviour **TWENTY FOUR SEVEN, IS** by willingly choosing to believe, follow and obey, all the Words of YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life. Amein

In 1Thessalonians 5:14-22 Paul tells us what being on our best behaviour looks like, for Paul says: *Now we (the disciples of Messiah) exhort you, brethren, **warn** them that are unruly, **comfort** the feeble-minded, **support** the weak, be **patient** toward all men. See that **none** render*

evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, Tov (always function in the manner that YHVH created all of us to function, in loving surrendered obedience to the Words of His Torah of Life) both among yourselves, and to ALL men. Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: WHY? FOR this IS the WILL of Elohim in Messiah Yeshua, concerning YOU. Do NOT quench the Holy Spirit. Do NOT despise prophesying. Prove ALL things; hold fast that which is good (Tov). Abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very Elohim of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray to Elohim, that your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved, blameless, unto the coming of our Master, Yeshua our Messiah. Amein

Verse 5 continued: And his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth.

(אֵלִישֶׁבַע, Ely Sheva, where the word Ely, means, My Elohim, and the word Sheva, means, to be sated, be satisfied, to be replete, be full, abounding, abundance, to swear, to bind oneself by seven things, or by seven oaths, bound by an oath, do something seven times, it also means the number seven, therefore the name Ely Sheva, or Elisabeth as it is translated in English, means a person who has made an oath to serve and rest in Elohim, and who is completely satisfied with that oath)

Verse 6 And they were both righteous before Elohim, walking in obedience to ALL the Commandments and Ordinances of YHVH, the Words of His Torah and they were therefore blameless.

The **Righteousness** that both Zakaryah and his wife Ely Sheva displayed **IS** defined for us in Deuteronomy 6:24-25 *And YHVH Commanded us TO DO ALL THESE STATUTES, to fear YHVH our Elohim, (the fear of YHVH IS the beginning of wisdom, and when we acquire that wisdom, it is) for our good always, that He, YHVH, might preserve us alive, as it is at this day. And IT SHALL BE OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS, IF WE OBSERVE TO DO ALL THESE COMMANDMENTS before YHVH our Elohim, as He has Commanded us.*

Verse 7 And they had no child, because that Ely Sheva was barren, and they both were now well stricken in years. 8 And it came to pass, that while Zakaryah executed his duties in the priest's office before Elohim, in the order of his course, 9 According to the custom of the priest's office, his lot was to burn incense when he went into the temple of YHVH. 10 And the whole multitude of the people were praying without at the time of incense. 11 And there appeared unto Zakaryah, a messenger of YHVH standing on the right side of the altar of incense. 12 And when Zakaryah saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.

Now it is hard to understand why someone like Zacharias, whom we are told was a **righteous** man, which means that he walked in obedience to **ALL** the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life, as best as he could, it is hard to understand, **WHY**, while he is **IN** the House of our heavenly Father, why he would be **afraid** at an apparition of a messenger of Elohim, because, after all, he had been praying to YHVH to answer his prayers for a child to be born to him and his wife.

Nevertheless we are told that he was indeed *afraid*. However the messenger of Elohim tells him, what YHVH tells all people when he talks to them, **DO NOT BE AFRAID**

*Verse 13 But the angel said unto him, **Fear not, Zacharias:***

WHY?

For your prayer is heard;

Since this messenger, is from YHVH, that means that Zakaryah's prayer was heard by YHVH. Why is that fact important? It is important, because we are told in *Proverbs 28:9 He that chooses to turn away his ear from hearing* (shema, which means to hear, listen, pay very close attention to, understand, believe, follow and obey) *the Words of YHVH's Torah, even his prayer shall be abomination.*

This means that the only reason that YHVH heard and then acted on Zakaryah's prayer, **IS because** Zakaryah had willingly chosen to believe, follow and obey all the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life.

*Verse 13 For your prayer **IS** heard; and your wife Ely Sheva **SHALL** bear you a son, and you shall call his name John.*

(יְחִיָּא, Yo Chanan, where the word Yo is from the name Yah, which is a short form of the name Yahweh, and the word Chanan, means to show favour, be gracious, have pity, granted amnesty)

*Verse 14 And you shall have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth. 15 For he shall be **great** in the sight of YHVH, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be **filled** with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb.*

What is significant about the fact that Yochanan, according to the messenger of Elohim, will be filled with the Holy Spirit of our heavenly Father, from birth?

Let's read *Ezekiel 36:24-27* to find out: *For I YHVH, will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. Then will I sprinkle **clean water** upon you, and you shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: **AND** I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, **AND** I will give you a heart of flesh. Furthermore, I **WILL** put My Holy Spirit within you, and **CAUSE** you to walk in My Statutes, and you **SHALL** keep My Judgments (the words of My Torah of Life), and **DO** them.*

As you can see, by YHVH's own words here in *Ezekiel 36*, when YHVH told Zakaryah, that his son, Yochanan, would be filled with His Holy Spirit, it meant that Yochanan had been chosen **BY** YHVH from his birth, because of YHVH's foreknowledge, that Yochanan would willingly surrender his heart to YHVH, and **ALLOW** the Holy Spirit to **CAUSE** him, to walk in total

loving surrendered obedience to **ALL** the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life, all the days of his life here on earth.

*Verse 16 And many of the children of Israel **SHALL** he, Yo Chanan, **TURN** to YHVH their Elohim.*

Again, the same question has to be asked here, what is important about these words, that the messenger of YHVH spoke about Yochanan's role in Israel?

Well, **IF**, what the messenger of Elohim said is true, that Yochanan will **CAUSE** many, but **NOT** all, of the children of Israel to turn to YHVH, **THEN** that means that the majority of the children of Israel had **TURNED AWAY** from YHVH, and from the Words of His Torah of Life, and had chosen instead, to follow their own ways, their own personal doctrines, or the doctrine of some man that they chose to follow and believe. It is important that we understand that **NO OTHER** doctrine, except the Words of the Torah of YHVH, that He gave to Moses at Mount Sinai, lines up with the Ways, and the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life. **NO** man made religious or secular doctrines even come close to lining up with YHVH's inerrant and everlasting Doctrine, the Words of His Torah of Life, or else the messenger of YHVH, would **NOT** have said, that Yochanan would **turn MANY of the children of Israel to YHVH their Elohim.**

Verse 17 And Yochanan shall go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah,

Who is the messenger of Elohim referring to, when he says that Yochanan will go before Him in the spirit of Elijah?

He is of course referring to the **FACT** that Yochanan will be preparing the Way for Messiah to come to minister to His people, the lost sheep of the people of Israel.

What is the purpose, according to the messenger of YHVH, of Yochanan going before Messiah in the Spirit and power of Elijah? It is *to turn the hearts of the **FATHERS** to the children,*

Here we have to ask ourselves, **WHO** are the **FATHERS** that this is speaking of, and what does the messenger of YHVH mean when he says, that the purpose of Yochanan's and Messiah's message or ministry, **IS** to cause the **hearts** of the **FATHERS** to **TURN** to the children. Well, I am sure that you know that the word *Fathers*, is referring to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and what was their **HEART'S DESIRE**, what did their hearts compel them to believe, follow and obey? Again the answer in Scripture is very clear, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob believed, followed, and obeyed the Words of the Father's Torah of Life!

*Genesis 26:1-5 And there was a famine in the land, beside the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went unto Abimelech king of the Philistines unto Gerar. And YHVH appeared unto him, and said, **DO NOT** go down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell you of: Sojourn in this land, and I, YHVH **WILL** be with you, and I **WILL** bless you; for unto*

*you, and unto your seed, I **WILL** give **ALL** these countries, and I **WILL** perform the oath which I swore unto Abraham your father; And I **WILL** make your seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and I **WILL** give unto your seed **ALL** these countries; and in your seed **SHALL ALL** the nations of the earth be blessed;*

WHY?

*Because your father, Abraham **obeyed My** voice, and **kept My** Charge, My Commandments, My Statutes, and the Words of My **TORAH**.*

Furthermore, the messenger of YHVH says, that **NOT** only will the words that Yochanan and Messiah speak, turn the **hearts of the fathers** to the children of Israel, but it will also turn the disobedient, those that Sin, those that continually transgress the Words of the Father's Torah of Life on a daily basis, to the **WISDOM of the JUST**; to make ready a people prepared for the advent of Messiah/YHVH.

If we want to truly understand what Luke is telling us here, then we have to ask ourselves, **WHAT IS** the **WISDOM** of the **JUST**?

The only way to truly understand what Luke is telling us is to refer to Scripture, for therein are **ALL** of YHVH's **TRUTHS**, found.

*Deuteronomy 4:5-14 Behold, I have taught you Statutes and Judgments, even as YHVH my Elohim commanded me, that **YOU**, Israel, should **DO SO** in the land where you go to possess it. **KEEP** (Shamar, guard) therefore and **DO THEM**;*

WHY?

*For this **IS** your **WISDOM** and your **UNDERSTANDING** in the sight of **ALL** the nations, who shall hear **ALL** these Statutes, (the Words of the Torah of YHVH) and say, **Surely** this great nation is a **WISE** and **understanding** people. For what nation is there so great, who have Elohim so near unto them, as YHVH our Elohim **IS** in all things that we call upon Him for? And what nation is there so great, that have Statutes and Judgments so righteous **AS ALL THIS TORAH**, which I set before you this day? Only take heed to yourself, and **KEEP** (Shamar, guard) your soul diligently, **LEST** you forget the things which **your own eyes have seen**, and **LEST** the things you have seen **depart from your heart ALL** the days of your life: **BUT** make sure to **teach** them to your sons, and your sons' sons; Specially the day that you stood before YHVH your Elohim in Horeb, when YHVH said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I YHVH, **WILL** make them **hear** My Words, so that they may **learn to fear me** (the fear of YHVH **IS** the beginning of **wisdom**) **ALL** the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may **TEACH their children**. And you (Israel) came near and stood under the mountain; and the mountain burned with fire unto the midst of heaven, with darkness, clouds, and thick darkness. And YHVH spoke unto you, out of the midst of the fire: you **heard** the Voice of the words, **BUT** you saw **NO** similitude; only you **heard a Voice**. And YHVH declared unto you His Covenant, which He Commanded you to **perform**, even **Ten Commandments**; and He wrote them upon two tables of stone. And YHVH Commanded me, Moses, at that time, to **TEACH YOU** (Israel)*

these Statutes and Judgments, that you **MIGHT DO THEM** in the land where you go over to possess it.

This tells us that the **WISDOM** of the **JUST**, and the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life, **ARE** synonymous terms.

Verse 18 And Zakaryah said unto the messenger of YHVH, Whereby shall I know this? for I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years. 19 And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel,

(גַּבְרִיאֵל, Gabary El, where the word Gabary, is from the word Gabar, which means, to be strong, overpower, was mighty, conquered, prevailed, confirmed, it means, man, male, warrior, therefore the name Gabriel can mean, man, warrior, power, or strength of Elohim)

*I am Gabriel, and I stand in the presence of Elohim; and I am sent to speak unto you, Zakaryah, and to **show** you these glad tidings. 20 And, behold, you **SHALL** be dumb, and **NOT** able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed,*

WHY?

*Because you did **NOT** believe my words, which shall be fulfilled in their season.*

It is important that we get the very important message that Gabriel is giving us here. **WE** are told in *verse 6*, that both Zakaryah and His wife, Elysheva, were **righteous** people, and the word **righteous** is defined in Scripture, as choosing the believe, follow and obey the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life, which according to Luke, they did. However we are told that Zakaryah, did **NOT** believe the Words that Gabriel spoke to him, when Gabriel informed him that his prayers were answered and that his wife would bear a child.

The reason that that is important for us, is because, even though Zakaryah was **righteous**, even though he believed that YHVH was all powerful and could do anything, and even though he prayed to YHVH that his wife would get pregnant, he never really believed that she would, and that is evidenced by the **FACT** that when he was approached by Gabriel, and confronted with the **FACT**, that his prayers had indeed been answered, all he could say **IS, HOW** is that possible, since both my wife and I are stricken with old **AGE**.

Let's read *Mark 11:22* And Yeshua answered and said unto them, Have **BELIEF** (faith) in Elohim. *23 For verily I say unto you, that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be you removed, and be you cast into the sea; AND shall NOT DOUBT in his heart, BUT SHALL BELIEVE that those things, which he said shall come to pass; he SHALL have whatsoever he says. 24 Therefore I say unto you, Whatsoever things you desire, when you pray, BELIEVE that you receive them, AND you SHALL have them. 25 And when you stand praying, FORGIVE, if you have ought against any:*

WHY?

*So that your Father also, who is in heaven may **FORGIVE you your trespasses.** 26 **BUT IF you DO NOT FORGIVE,** (other people their trespasses against you) *then neither will your Father, who is in heaven, forgive you, your trespasses.**

The reason that this is so important is because the majority of the prayers of the people of the world, including many people who profess to believe, follow and obey the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life, **ARE NOT ANSWERED**, and I am convinced that it because, like Zakaryah, we are guilty of praying without **believing** that YHVH will do what we ask of Him for **US**. Therein lies the problem, we have to learn to **believe**, that our heavenly Father, wants to answer our prayers, for He loves us with an infinite love, therefore we need to **believe** that when we pray to Him, that He wants to give us what we need and even sometimes what we want, **BUT**, as you can see, by what Messiah told us in *Mark 11*, it is up to us to pray according to His **WILL**, and **IF** we do that, **IF** we remove any and all doubts, and truly believe that He will answer our prayers, then according to Messiah, our prayers will be answered.

*1John 5:14-15 And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, **IF** we ask any thing according to His will, He hears us: And **IF** we know that He hear us, then whatsoever we ask of Him, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him.*

1John 5:14-15 has to be our position when we pray. Amein

*Verse 21 And the people waited for Zakaryah, and marvelled that he tarried so long in the temple. 22 And when he came out, he could **NOT** speak unto them: and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple: for he beckoned unto them, and remained **speechless**.*

*Verse 23 And it came to pass, that, as soon as the days of his ministration (the priestly duties of the course of Abiyah, אֲבִיָּהּ) were accomplished, **he departed to his own house.** 24 And after **those days** his wife Elyshevah conceived, and hid herself **FIVE months**, saying, 25 Thus has YHVH dealt with me in the days wherein He looked on me, to **take away my reproach among men.***

Earlier, we were told that Zakaryah is from the priestly course of Abiyah, אֲבִיָּהּ, which means, Yah is My Father, and that he served in the temple, together with the priests of the course of Hakkoz, הַקֹּזִי, which is from the word Qotz, which means, thorn, thorn-bush, to put thorns in somebody's path, to shrink, shrivel, it also means to loathe, abhor, feel a sickening dread, to detest, he despaired, and for your information, the ninth course of Priests, is the course called Yeshua, which of course means salvation. Therefore by the definition of the names of the seventh, eighth and ninth courses of priest, we are told about what will happen to Messiah, the only begotten Son of the Father. This is the message that I get when I put the definition of these names together. Our heavenly Father, sent His Son to be a propitiation for our sins, and therefore He came to teach us the Ways and the Words of our heavenly Father, the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life, and because

Yeshua did that, He was hated, abhorred and loathed by the religious leaders of the day, and they judged Him by their man made deviant laws and found Him guilty, and they placed a crown of thorns on His head, and then they crucified Him, and from the cross, in His despair He cried out to our heavenly Father and said, Ely Ely Lamah Sabbaktani, My El My El why have you forsaken Me.

It is simply amazing to me how our heavenly Father's leaves us messages everywhere in Scripture, and He wants us to take the time to study and dig through the Scriptures to find these wonderful gems.

Now to get back to the time line; Zakaryah served in the temple in the fourth month, which is about mid June or early in July, and after his service of the fourth month, he went home and we are told that his wife conceived soon after, and that she kept it secret for **five** months, which would make it the ninth month, which is sometime in late November or early December. Now keep that in mind as we go on with the rest of the story.

*Verse 26 And in the **sixth** month (of Elyshevah's pregnancy, which would be the month of December on the Gregorian calendar) the angel Gabriel (the very same messenger of YHVH that visited Zakaryah) was sent from Elohim unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, 27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.*

(מִרְיָם, Miryam, which means, to rebel, be rebellious, showed, disobedience, argued,)

Verse 28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, you that are highly favoured, YHVH is with you: blessed are you among women.

Now, out of all the young maidens that YHVH could have chosen, he picked someone with the name Miryam, whose name means, *rebellious, to show or be disobedient, to be argumentative*. Why do you suppose He chose a person with that name to be the mother of Messiah? I believe it is because YHVH wanted to show us, that when we choose to **turn away from** that type of behaviour, **turn away from** any and all rebellious disobedient behaviours, and choose instead to turn to Him, as Miryam, willingly did, when she said, in *verse 38, let it be done to me, according to Your Word*; then I believe, that like Miryam, we too will be highly **FAVoured** by YHVH, for making that choice. We have to understand that there is a purpose and a lesson in everything that YHVH does, including the names of the people that He chooses to do His will.

*Verse 29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. 30 And the messenger said unto her, Do **NOT** fear, Miryam:*

WHY was Miryam **NOT** to fear?

Because You have found **favour** (grace and mercy) with Elohim. 31 And, behold, you **SHALL** conceive in your womb, and bring forth a son, and you shall call His name Yeshua.

(יהושע, Yehusha, or יהושוע, Yehushua, or, ישועה, Yeshua, where the word Yahu is a short form of the Name Yahweh, and the Word Shua, means salvation, to help, save, deliver, he cried for help, the name Yeshua, means help, salvation, victory. Welfare, prosperity)

Verse 32 He Yehushua, or Yeshua shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and YHVH Elohim **SHALL** give unto Him the throne of **His father David**: 33 And He shall reign over the house of Jacob **FOR EVER**; and of His kingdom, there **shall be NO END**.

That means that whosoever makes it into the kingdom of Elohim, will also live forever, under the authority of Yehushua or Yeshua. And please **NOTE** that we are told, that Yeshua will reign over the house of Jacob forever. The house of Jacob consists of the Twelve tribes of Israel, **BUT** there is **NO** mention of anyone else being in the kingdom, only the people of the House of Jacob. There is no mention of anyone that has chosen to follow the man made doctrines of Judaism, Christianity of Catholicism being under the rule of Messiah forever, it is **JUST** the restored house of Jacob.

Verse 34 Then Miryam said unto the messenger of YHVH, How shall this be, seeing I have **NOT** known a man (This is **NOT** unbelief, Miryam is merely asking a question, for she says, I have not had any sexual intercourse with any man, therefore how can I get pregnant)? 35 And the angel **answered** and said unto her, The Holy Spirit shall come upon you, and the omnipotent power of the Highest, **SHALL** overshadow you: therefore, what shall be **born of YOU, SHALL BE HOLY** and He shall be called, the Son of Elohim.

Verse 36 And, behold, your cousin Elyshevah, she also has conceived a son in her old age: and this is the **sixth** month with her, who was called barren. 37 For with Elohim **NOTHING** shall be impossible. 38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of YHVH; **BE IT DONE** unto me, according to **YOUR WORD**. And the messenger departed from her.

As you can see, Miryam has totally surrendered her will to the Will of Elohim, and she is prepared to do whatever YHVH wants her to do.

Verse 39 And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Judah; 40 And she entered into the house of Zakaryah, and saluted Elyshevah. 41 And it came to pass, that, when Elyshevah heard the salutation of Miryam, the babe (Yochanan) that is in her womb, leaped; and Elyshevah was filled with the Holy Spirit:

I know that I might sound like a broken record in repeating this, **BUT** the only way that Elyshevah could be filled with the Holy Spirit of YHVH after being pregnant, is because she

was still very righteous, which means that she was obedient to the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life.

Now the time line tells us that in the sixth month of Alyshevah's pregnancy, the messenger of YHVH, Gabriel visited Miryam, and she conceived a child by the omnipotent power of the Holy spirit, and that she then decided to come and visit her cousin, Elyshevah, who, as I said, was now in her *sixth* month of pregnancy, which would put Miryam's visit to Elyshevah's house, at some time in December, and that my friends **IS** the time of Hanukkah, the festival of Lights, the festival that celebrates the Jewish victory over their enemies, the victory that was made possible by the Hand of YHVH, and the re-dedication of the Temple of YHVH. Although this is a man made feast, it really **IS** a celebration of YHVH's omnipotent power and His desire to save His people, the ones who willingly and lovingly choose to be obedient to the Words of His Torah of Life, from their enemies. I believe that YHVH wants us to commemorate the victories that He gave Israel over a period of about twenty years, **BECAUSE** some people within the country were very brave and chose to stand for **TRUTH**, the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life, and they were totally dedicated in their determination, to believe, follow and obey the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life, and therefore YHVH, through His grace and mercy fulfilled His promise and honoured the people who remained faithful to the Words of His Torah of Life, by giving them victory after victory, until they conquered their enemies, and chased them out of the land of Israel, through the Hand of YHVH.

This feast, commemorates the **FACT** that YHVH raised up a man, who had five sons, and by and through the Hand of YHVH, they defeated the despotic rulers and regained full control of their land and their temple, and then, they joyfully re-dedicated the Temple to YHVH and chose to continue to walk in His Ways, in obedience to the Words of His Torah of Life.

This festival is called the Festival of Lights, and I believe that it represents, the time that the Light of the World, our Messiah, was conceived by and through the Holy Spirit, in the month of December, and then being born nine month later at the Feast of Trumpets, or the Feast of Succoth, which is a rehearsal of the coming of the eighth Millennium, where Messiah will rule and reign over the house of Jacob, in the kingdom of Elohim, forever.

*Verse 42 And Elyshevah, spoke out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed are you among women, and blessed **IS** the fruit of your womb. 43 And why is this happening to me, that the mother of my Master should come to me?*

This Elyshevah is so very humble that she feels privileged that Miryam, who is pregnant with the Son of Elohim, has come to visit her, and she praises Miryam with her words and calls her blessed. Please remember that in that culture, the younger women were the ones that usually paid homage to and obeyed the older women, but here in this case of Miryam and Elyshevah, the opposite is happening, and Elyshevah seems very pleased with the fact that she has been blessed by a visit from Miryam.

Verse 44 For, lo, as soon as the voice of your salutation sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy.

Even the unborn baby recognized that he was in the presence of greatness, and as you can see, he responded by jumping in his mother's womb.

Next Luke says of Miryam in *verse 45*

And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from YHVH. 46 And Miryam said, My soul does magnify YHVH, 47 And my spirit has rejoiced in Elohim my Saviour. 48 For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth ALL generations shall call me, Miryam, blessed. 49 For He that is mighty, has done to me great things; and Holy IS His Name.

Furthermore Miryam says in *verse 50*

And His mercy IS on them that FEAR him from generation to generation.

This tells us two things, the words, *from generation to generation*, tells us that YHVH does **NOT** change, He is always the same, so we can rest assured that what He Commanded Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, are the very same things that He Commands us to do today, and that **IS, OBEY** the Words of My Torah, and **you shall live**. And when it says, *His mercy is on the people that fear Him*, we have to understand that that means that His mercy is on the people that surrender their hearts, minds, souls and strength to Him, for the **FEAR** of YHVH **IS** indeed, the beginning of **WISDOM**, and **WISDOM** is defined as believing and obeying the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life. (*Deuteronomy 6:24-25*)

In *verse 51*, after telling us that YHVH's mercy is on the people that fear Him, Luke delineates many of the other things that YHVH does and has done for His people, and to those that rebelled against Him and His Ways.

He has showed strength with His Arm

He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts

He has put down the mighty from their seats

He has exalted them of low degree

He has filled the hungry with good things

He has sent the rich away empty

He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His manifold mercy

As He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed for ever.

*Verse 56 And Miryam abode with her about **three** months, and then Miryam returned to her own house.*

(which means that Miryam was probably there at Yochanan's birth, for she went to Alyshevah's home when she was six month pregnant and stayed there for three months, which means that she was there when her time to deliver the baby was due, and I cannot

believe that she would leave Elyshevah's side just a few days before she delivered her child),

Verse 57 Now Elyshevah's full time came that she should be delivered; and she brought forth a son. 58 And her neighbours and her cousins heard how YHVH had showed great mercy upon her; and they rejoiced with her.

*Verse 59 And it came to pass, that on the **eighth** day, they came to circumcise the child; and they called him Zakaryah, after the name of his father. 60 And his mother answered and said, **NOT SO; BUT** he shall be called Yochanan. 61 And they said unto her, There is no one of your kindred that is called by this name. 62 And they made signs to his father, how he would have him called. 63 And he asked for a writing table, and wrote, saying, His name is Yochanan. And they all marvelled.*

Why did they marvel? It was customary for people to name their children by the name of someone in their family tree, and since there was no one in the line of Zakaryah that was named Yochanan, the people were amazed that Zakaryah **BROKE** with tradition, and called his son's name Yochanan, for they were **NOT** privy to what Gabriel had told Zakaryah, that he should name his son, Yochanan.

Once Zakaryah confirmed the name that the messenger of Elohim told him to name his new born son, we are told in *verse 64*

Zakaryah's mouth was opened immediately, and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, and praised Elohim.

I believe that Luke is teaching us, that obedience to YHVH's Commands always brings on His blessings upon the person that willingly chose to obey His Commandments, and that is why Zakaryah's voice was restored, for he confirmed what the messenger of YHVH had told him to name his son.

Verse 65 And fear came on all that dwelt round about them: and all these sayings were noised abroad throughout all the hill country of Judea.

Why were the people afraid? I believe it is because Zakaryah, had been **MUTE** for a little over **nine months now**, and all of a sudden, for no apparent reason, as far as the people were concerned, he began to speak, and the first thing that he said was that his new born son was to be named Yochanan, breaking a long standing tradition of naming one's son after the father or another revered member of the family, and that caused the people real concern. Therefore they thought to themselves, what kind of man will this new born be, who will live in our midst, whose name, can cause a man who was mute, to begin speaking. Please remember that for the most part, these people, the people of Israel/Judah were **NOT** keeping the Words of YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah, for many believed in idols, many were keeping the oral torah of the rabbis, and many of them were superstitious, and

therefore when something new happened in their community, something that breaks from their traditional ways, it is, and always will be a cause for concern for them.

*Verse 66 And all they that heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, What **manner** of child shall this be! And the hand of YHVH was with him.*

Even though the people of Zakaryah's community had concerns about the child, Yochanan, YHVH did not, for we are told that YHVH was **with him**. That saying, YHVH was **with him** rolls off the tongue quite easily, **BUT** what does it really mean. Would YHVH be with Yochanan **IF** he did **NOT** believe, follow **NOR** obey the Words of His Torah of Life? The answer of course, **IS** a resounding **NO**, YHVH would **NOT** be **WITH** a person that does **NOT** believe, follow, **NOR** obey the Words of His Torah of Life, therefore that tells us that Yochanan was indeed obedient to **ALL** the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life, and he did that for all the days of his life here on earth. Now, ask yourself, could **YOU** do that, could **YOU** live apart from your family and community, in the desert, waiting for the time that the Holy Spirit tells you to begin your ministry of preparing the Way for Messiah? We have to understand that Yochanan's **WHOLE Life** was spent preparing for this **ONE EVENT**, where he would go before Messiah, to prepare the Way for the message that the only begotten Son of our heavenly Father would bring to the lost sheep of the tribes of Israel, and **DIE** in the process. So again I ask you, could **YOU** do that? Could **YOU**, and would **YOU** spend **YOUR** whole life preparing for just one event, and when that event was over, have your head chopped off? It is something to think about, and it will give **YOU** a hint as to what our heavenly Father requires of some people, like our patriarchs, the prophets of old, His disciples, and the sacrifices that He asks them to make; for every last one of them that obeyed the call of our heavenly Father, did it willingly and lovingly, even onto death, because they were totally dedicated to Him.

Verse 67 And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying, 68 Blessed is YHVH the Elohim of Israel; for He has visited and redeemed His people,

The same question can be asked about Zakaryah, and that is, **CAN** the Holy Spirit of our heavenly Father be with him, **IF** he was **NOT** walking in obedience to the Words of the Father's Torah of Life? The answer of course is also, a resounding **NO**, YHVH would **NOT** be with him.

*Verse 69 He has raised up a **horn of salvation** for us in the house of his servant David;*

(In Hebrew the words Horn of Salvation would be יְשׁוּעָה קֶרֶן, Yeshua Qeren, Salvation Horn, where the word Yeshua means, help, salvation, victory, welfare, prosperity, and the word Qeren means horn, shofar, rams horn, strength, power, might, glory, pride, corner, point, peak, ray, to beam, radiate, he shed light, shining, radiant. Therefore when Zakaryah says that the Elohim of Israel has raised up a **Horn of Salvation** or a **Salvation Horn**, it means that He has offered the people of His family, Israel, Yashar El, and all those who will choose to join themselves to Israel, victory, salvation, prosperity, through His glorious strength and mighty power, so that like Messiah, His **Horn of Salvation**, we too can be a **beam of Light**, a **shining symbol** of **all that is RIGHTEOUS**, a **salvation**

Light to all the people of the world that are mired in darkness, because they do **NOT KNOW** YHVH, nor any of His Ways, the Words of His Torah of Life)

Verse 70 As He spoke (Prophesied) by the mouth of His holy prophets, who have been since the world began:

What has been from the beginning of time, since the world began? It is or should be obvious that is **NOT** YHVH's prophets, so what does Luke mean, when he says: *who have been from the beginning of time?* Luke is talking of the Words of the Creator, the very same Words that became flesh, and dwelt among us, the very same Words that Luke calls *the Horn of Salvation*, the very same Words that became flesh and that went to the cross in our stead. And what did this **Horn of Salvation** do for us, according to Luke?

*Verse 71 That we **should be SAVED** from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us;*

We certainly have human enemies in the physical, who want to destroy us, the people of YHVH's Israel, **BUT** they can only harm our physical bodies, therefore the enemy that Luke is talking about, **IS UNBELIEF**, that is caused by the lies and deception of satan, when people choose to believe his deceptive words and ways, therefore, our real enemy, **IS** the one who has come to steal kill and destroy the souls of **ALL** the people of YHVH's creation, the one that causes unbelief to prosper through his lies, the kind of unbelief that will cause all people who believe satan's lies, to be led to the second death in the Lake of Fire.

Luke continues and tells us what else this **Horn of Salvation** is come to do in *verse 72 He has come to perform the **mercy** promised to our fathers, and to **remember** His Holy Covenant; (given to Israel, at Mount Sinai) 73 The oath which He swore to our father Abraham, 74 That He would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies (satan), might serve Him without fear,*

The fear that this is speaking of, is **NOT** the fear of YHVH, which Scripture tells us **IS** the beginning of wisdom, this is the type of fear that people have when they have **NO HOPE**, and are filled with despair, for they do **NOT** know what lies ahead, and therefore they are fearful.

*Verse 75 Serve Him in **holiness***

(קִדְּשׁ, to be holy, be sacred, to sanctify, consecrate, was set apart, was forbidden, was dedicated, declared holy, he cleansed, purified, he kept himself separated, purified himself, he regarded as holy, a holy object, a holy place, the Holy Temple, it also means a temple prostitute for she too is set apart for a specific purpose)

*Serve Him in **righteousness** before Him, all the days of our life.*

(צִדְקָה, Tzedeq, means, to be just, be righteous, he spoke the truth, was acquitted, was justified, was declared innocent, was declare righteous, it means justice, righteousness, salvation, deliverance, victory, merit)

Righteousness is defined for us in *Deuteronomy 6:24-25* *And YHVH Commanded us to do all these Statutes, to fear YHVH our Elohim (the fear of YHVH IS the beginning of Wisdom), for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as it is at this day. And IT SHALL BE OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS, IF WE OBSERVE TO DO ALL these Commandments before YHVH our Elohim, AS HE HATH COMMANDED US.*

Verse 76 And you, child, my son Yochanan, SHALL be called the prophet of the Highest: for you SHALL go before the face of YHVH, to prepare His Ways; 77 To give knowledge of salvation unto His people by the remission of their Sins, the remissions of their transgressions of the Words of His Torah of Life 78 Through the tender mercy of our Elohim; whereby the dayspring

(Anatolay, Strong's number G395, ἀνατολή, anatolḗ, pronounced, an-at-ol-ay, it is from Strong's number G393; a rising of light, i.e. dawn (figuratively); by implication, the east, dayspring, east, rising, it refers to the **rising of the Sun**, **BUT** in the Spiritual, it speaks of the Advent or the Rising of the **SON**, the only begotten of the Father, who is filled with Grace and **TRUTH**, and **TRUTH** is defined in Scripture, as the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life.)

From on high (heaven) has visited us,

WHY?

Verse 79 To give LIGHT (HOPE) to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death, To guide our feet into the way of PEACE.

In other words, Luke is repeating what Paul said in *Philippians 4:6-9* *Be anxious for nothing; BUT in every thing, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto Elohim. 7 And the PEACE of Elohim, which passes ALL understanding, shall keep (guard) your hearts and minds through Yeshua Messiah, the Living Torah made flesh. 8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are TRUE, whatsoever things are HONEST, whatsoever things are JUST, whatsoever things are PURE, whatsoever things are LOVELY, whatsoever things are of GOOD REPORT; IF there be any VIRTUE, and IF there be any PRAISE, THINK, meditate on these things. 9 Those things, which you have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in ME, DO: and the Elohim of peace shall be with you.*

What things did they **see** in Paul, that he wants them to **emulate**?

Acts 24:10-16 Then Paul, after that the governor had beckoned unto him to speak, answered, and said, Forasmuch as I know that you have been of many years a judge unto this nation, I do the more cheerfully answer for myself: Because that you may understand, that there are yet but twelve days since I went up to Jerusalem to worship in the Temple. And they neither found me in the temple disputing with any man, neither raising up the people, neither in the synagogues, nor in the city: Neither can they prove the things whereof they now accuse me. BUT this, I Paul confess unto you, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the Elohim of my fathers, BELIEVING ALL THINGS WHICH ARE WRITTEN IN THE TORAH AND IN THE PROPHETS: And have hope toward Elohim, which they themselves also allow, that there

shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust. And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward Elohim, and toward men.

Paul makes it quite clear here, in the book of Acts, that he believes, follows and obeys **ALL** the Words of the Father that are found in His Torah of Life, and in the writings of His prophets. Then Paul says *And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience VOID of offence toward Elohim, and toward men.*

Now please remember also what Paul said in *Romans 8:7-8 Because the carnal mind is enmity against Elohim:*

WHY?

BECAUSE IT IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE TORAH OF ELOHIM, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh, the carnal mind CANNOT PLEASE ELOHIM.

So when Paul says that he has a conscience that **IS VOID** of **OFFENCE, towards** Elohim and towards men, he means that He **IS** obedient to all the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, **BECAUSE Paul does NOT want to OFFEND Elohim, he wants to PLEASE Him.**

Verse 80 And the child (Yochanan) grew, and waxed strong in spirit, (there can be NO other outcome, when someone has willingly chosen to ALLOW the Holy Spirit of YHVH to CAUSE them to believe, follow and obey all the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life, for anyone that willingly chooses to follow that path, will be STRONG in the Holy Spirit of YHVH) and he was in the desert UNTIL the day of his showing unto Israel.

As I mentioned above, Yochanan purposely isolated himself from his family and his community, so that he would **NOT** be polluted by the ways of the world and or the words of man and their false doctrines, which means that he was totally dedicated to complete the task that the Holy Spirit had put upon his heart, and as far as Yochanan was concerned, he would **NOT** allow **ANYTHING** to deter him from accomplishing the task that YHVH wanted him to do. Amein.

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

*Have a great Elohim blessed week and may YHVH bless your every thought,
and your every deed. Until we meet again. Amein*