

The Names of Christmas: Zacharias and Elisabeth

5 There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah. His wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. 6 And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. 7 But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both well advanced in years ... 11 Then an

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angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense... "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. 14 And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth.

Zacharias was a man with a plan.



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He was a priest of the Most High God. He had been praying for years, we might even say decades, for a baby. Now He and his wife were advanced in years...beyond hope...beyond help.

Yet Zacharias prayed.

The name Zacharias transliterates from the Hebrew as *Zakaryah* which means *Jehovah remembers*. And what does God remember? He remembers His word, His will, His promises. He remembers your prayers.

God remembers.

It's not that God ever forgets your prayers. When the Bible says *He remembers* it means He is going to act, according to His word, His will, and His promises, In His perfect timing. God is always on time.

The name *Elisabeth* is derived from Hebrew and it means *God has sworn*. What has God promised us at Christmas time? To send His only beloved Son, to be born of a virgin, in the dark of night, in the darkness of our sin, to be the Light of the World.

Let's put those two names together and receive a Christmas message from God:

Zacharias Elizabeth: GOD REMEMBERS HIS PROMISES.

He will never leave you.

He will never forsake you.

He forgives you.

He loves you.

He promises.

What has God promised you? Please leave a reply in the comment section below. I'd love to chat with you! Merry Christmas!

by Mary Kane

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