

The Two Treatises
Lesson 3

**The Expectants Visit, John's Birth, &
Zacharias' Prophecy**
Luke 1:39-80



Introduction

Both Elizabeth & Mary have wonderful news...they are to be mothers. Yet, these will not be "normal" births. In their respective wombs, they carried lives that would reshape the world. Focusing on what they said during their visit together, we see how much God was at work in those 3 months. The Messiah's forerunner is finally born, and his father prophecies to herald his arrival and the great preparatory work that awaited him.

The Expectants Visit (1:39-56)

- 1) What happened when Mary arrived at Elizabeth's house (vv. 39-41a)

- 2) Re: the baby's reaction in v. 41, what connection do you see to what Zacharias had been earlier told by Gabriel? (v. 15)

- 3) How did Elizabeth respond? (vv. 41b-45) Do you see any significance in her words?

- 4) What does Mary do in vv. 46-55? What does she emphasize, especially in vv. 48b, 55b?

- 5) How long did her visit with Elizabeth last? (v. 56)

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John's Birth (1:57-66)

- 6) What events are described in vv. 57-63? What apparent "dilemma" is resolved, first by Elizabeth and then by Zacharias? (vv. 59-60, 62-63)

- 7) What happens now for the first time in nine months? (v. 64; cp. v. 20) What was the reaction of all those who witnessed it? (vv. 65-66)

Zacharias' Prophecy (1:67-80)

- 8) Given the condition described earlier (vv. 7, 25), what would one have normally expected Zacharias to focus on? Who did he speak about after his tongue was loosened? (vv. 67-75)

- 9) Of whom does he prophesy next? (vv. 76-79)

- 10) What "summary" is recorded? (v. 80; cp. v. 17; Mal. 4:5-6; Mt. 17:9-13)