LESSON-13

Birth of a Divine Child



What is your name? My name is ...............
Who gave you the name? (My parents)

But there are some persons in the Bible who were named by God, and that too before their birth Now let us study about a man who was named by God.

There was a priest named Zechariah in Judaea. Elizabeth was his wife. She also belonged to priestly family. They both lived good lives in God's sight. Both of them were very old. But they had no children. They were earnestly praying for a child.

One day Zechariah was serving in the temple of Jerusalem. There an angel of the Lord appeared to him. When Zechariah saw the angel he was afraid.

But the angel said to him: *"Don't be afraid Zechariah, God heard your prayer.*

*Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son. You are to name him John.*

*He will be a great man in the Lord's sight*

*He must not drink any wine or strong drink*

*He will be filled with the Holy Spirit*

*He will be strong and mighty like the prophet El4ah.*

*He will bring back many people to the Lord.*

*He will bring fathers and children together again.*

*He will turn disobedient people back to righteousness.*

*He will go ahead of the Lord (Jesus).*

*He will get the people ready far the*

*Lord!!*

But Zechariah could not believe this. Zechariah said to the angel,

"How can it be possible? l am an old man, and my wife is old also.

The angel answered: "I am Gabriel. God sent me to tell you this good news. You will remain dumb till the son is born, because you haven't believed my message".

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| In the meantime people were waiting outside the temple. But Zechariah was not coming out for a long time. They grew afraid what happened to the priest! At such an anxious time did Zechariah arrive. But to their surprise, he was not able to speak! They were still more curious. |  |

The joyful day came. Elizabeth gave .

birth to a son. Their neighbours and

relatives rejoiced with them. When the baby was a week old they were going to name him. Sc asked Zechariah, "What name do you like to put?" But Zechariah was unable to speak. So he fora writing board, and he wrote on it His name is John.

What a wonder! immediately Zachariah’s tongue was loosed. He began to speak.

Do you know why Zachariah became dumb? Because he did not believe the word of God. We believe and obey the word of God at all times, at all events.

*Reference: Memory Verse*

Lk.1:5-23, 57-66. "See! will send my messenger, who will prepare the way b

me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come t temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire come," says the Lord Almighty. (Mal.3:1)

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1. *Who were the parents of John the Baptist?.................................................*
2. *Why did Zechariah become dumb? ........................................................*
3. *Which angel brought the good news to Zechariah? .........................................*

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