

## **The Annunciation of John Luke 1:5-25**

**Introduction-** Luke is the gospel of praise and prayer; of tender, human interest; and heavenly grace; it is fitting therefore that he should open with a scene in the temple at the hour of prayer and a divine promise that fills our hearts with wonder and joy.

This promise concerns the birth of the one who would prepare the way of the Messiah. Luke the historian, gives us the time and the setting of this opening scene. “The days of Herod the King of Judea,” (vs. 5a). This king is “Herod the Great,” the first of several rulers from the Herodian dynasty, who are name in scripture. This Herod ruled from 37-4 B.C. He was an Idumen, a descendent of Esau. He was very ruthless, wicked, and cunning. So these were indeed dark days for the Nation of Israel. But, the light was not beginning to dawn.

Our story has three movements:

1. The Supernatural Appearance (vv. 1-12).
2. The Prophetic Utterance (vv. 13-17).
3. The Unbelieving Silence (vv. 18-25).

### **I. The Supernatural Appearance** (vv. 1-12).

#### **1. The persons of our story** (vv. 1-7).

- The righteous do suffer, but they still serve God. Their marriage was strong because of spiritual compatibility. Man’s extremity is God’s opportunity.

#### **2. The occasion of the appearance** (vv. 8-10).

#### **3. The supernatural encounter** (vv. 11-12).

### **II. The Prophetic Utterance** (vv. 13-17)

#### **1. A son is promised** (vv. 13-14).

#### **2. The son’s character** (vs. 15)

#### **3. The son’s ministry** (vv. 16-17).

### **III. The Unbelieving Silence** (vv. 18-25)

Zechariah's response (vs. 18). Reasons why he should not have doubted:

- 1. He knew scripture.** God had done it in the past: Isaac, Samson & Samuel.
- 2. He was a priest,** not an atheist.
- 3. He was offering prayer.**
- 4. He was confronted by an angel.**

He was a man just like us! Unbelief shuts our mouth. Israel out of the Promised Land!

**God always keeps his promises!**

**We should not only count our blessings, we should remember where they come from and give God thanks!**

**God takes unbelief very seriously.  
Same for us!**

Jesus said,

*“I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life” (John 5:24). “What must we do to do the works God requires?’ Jesus answered, ‘The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.’” (John 6:28-29)*