

# Prepare the way ..



**The birth of Jesus didn't just happen by chance  
Lots of things led up to his coming into this  
world.**

**There are prophecies in the Bible about where  
he would be born, whose family he would be  
part of, where he would live etc.**

# The Messenger



**It was also prophesied that a special person, “The Messenger”, would come first to get people ready to meet Jesus. (Isaiah, Malachi)**

**This is the story of the birth of the Messenger, called John the Baptist - one of the greatest men who ever lived**

**Luke 1:5-25**

# **Before Luke 1:5 ....**

Psalm 139:14-17 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them!



# Zechariah and Elizabeth



## The wedding.

Luke 1: 6

# Zechariah and Elizabeth



**Some  
time  
later**

**Luke 1: 7**

# Zechariah and Elizabeth

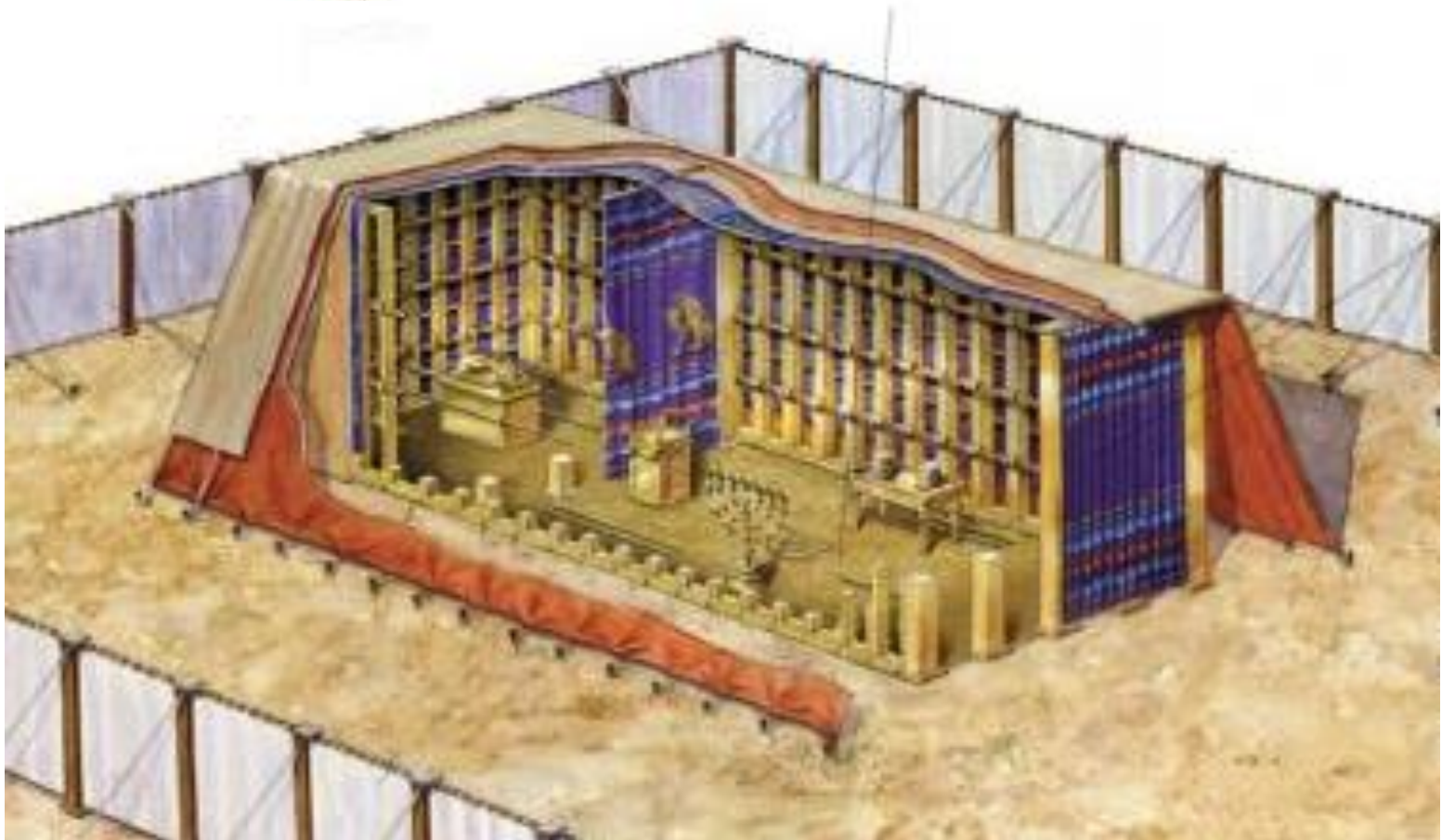
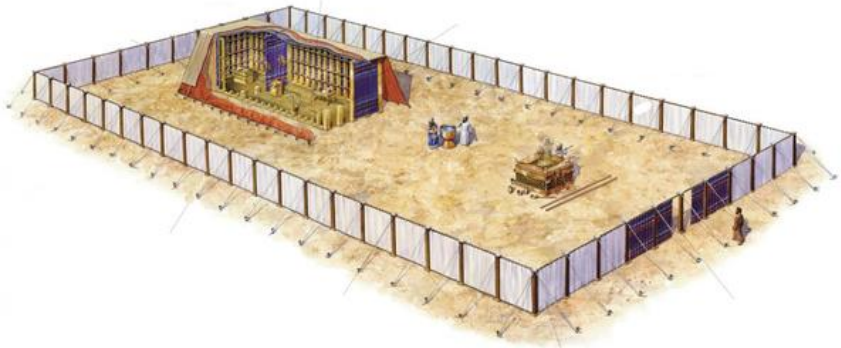


**A long time later .....** Luke 1: 7



**The Temple in Jerusalem      Luke 1: 5**

# The Tabernacle





Once when Zechariah`s team was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, he was chosen to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. Luke 1: 8 - 9





## Luke 1:10 - 13

All the assembled worshippers were praying outside. Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him.

When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified.

But the angel said to him..  
“Don’t be afraid, Zechariah;  
your prayer has been heard.  
Your wife Elizabeth will have a  
son, and you are to give him  
the name John.”

## The PLAN

Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John.

He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born. He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous--to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

Luke 1:13 - 17

# How Can I Know?



Zechariah asked the angel,  
“**How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is getting old too.**”

**Luke 1:18**

# How Can I Know?



**Answered prayer!  
Bible Examples  
Bible Promises  
Angel messenger**

**The angel answered,  
“I am Gabriel. I have been  
sent by God to tell you this  
good news.  
And now you will be not able  
to speak until the day this  
happens, because you did not  
believe my words.**

**But it will happen at the right  
time.”**

**Luke 1:19 - 20**



**Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah. They knew something had happened because he stayed so long in the temple. When he came out, he could not speak to them. He kept making signs to them but remained unable to speak. Luke 1:21-22**

**Faith**  
**comes by hearing**  
**the word of God**



**When his time of service was completed, he returned home.**

**After this his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and for five months remained at home.**

**Luke 1 23 - 25**





**“The Lord has done  
this for me.”**

**She said, “In these  
days he has shown  
his **favour** and taken  
away my disgrace  
among the people.”**




I am not forgotten, I am not forgotten, I am not forgotten

 God knows my name.

I am not forgotten, I am not forgotten, I am not forgotten

 God knows my name.

He knows my  name.


Light over darkness, strength over weakness

Joy over sadness  He knows my name

Father to the fatherless, friend to the friendless

Hope for the hopeless  He knows my name.

Oh I will praise you, I will praise you,

For I am fearfully and wonderfully  made