

Prophetic Words about Jesus/Yeshua for Christmas

Luke 1 & 2 Matt 1 & 2 selected verses

God gave seven words about the birth of His Son through seven people who either received a prophecy or gave a prophecy.

Re-read the Christmas story sometime this week or through the holidays.

We know God speaks through prophecy as He spoke through people to let His will be known.

In case this is new to you, prophecy is God speaking or foretelling His will about a future event to happen among humans.

God was speaking seven prophecies about the birth of His Son.
We won't look at all seven of them today, maybe the others the next time.

With each of the seven prophecies, there is one word that stands out as a message the Lord wants us to know about the purpose of the coming of His Son.

1. **Salvation** [Zacharias] the father of John the Baptist.

- Zacharias is a priest serving in the Temple whose wife is Elisabeth.
- Elisabeth is barren – Zacharias is praying for her to have a child.
- As he is serving his course as priest in the Temple, an angel comes to him and announces his prayers have been heard and Elisabeth will conceive and have a child.
- Zacharias was a wise man in his response to the angel: “How can this be me being old and Elisabeth being advanced in years.”
- The angel told him that because he didn't believe, he would be mute until your son is born.
- Both Mary and Abraham asked the same question of the angel; but they believed.
- So as John was born, Zacharias couldn't speak so they asked Elisabeth what would be the child's name and she responded it will be John.
- Zacharias responds by writing his name down and suddenly, his tongue is loosed and he is able to tell them his name will be John.

Luke 1:67 “Now his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited and

redeemed His people, and has raised up a horn of **salvation** for us in the House of His servant David.”

v. 76 – “And you child will be called the prophet of the Highest: for you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways, to give knowledge of salvation to His people by the remission of their sins.”

Christmas represents SALVATION – please don’t forget amidst all the buying, the presents, the parties, the gatherings, the days off.

It’s about God sending His Son for our salvation from sin is the main priority message of Christmas.

His name is Jesus and He’s called Jesus because He will save His people from their sins.

- Jesus is a derivative of Yeshua - Yeshua is the Hebrew name; Jesus is the Greek name.
 - Ye in Hebrew is the derivative of Joshua.
 - Joshua’s name at birth was not Joshua – the two Joshua’s of the OT were the one who lead Israel into the promise land and the other was the Joshua who was the High Priest when Israel came out of Exile.
 - His name at birth was Hoshea, Moses added the **J** on the front of his name making it Jehoshua, later becoming Joshua.
 - Hoshea means salvation or saves, Jehovah means God.
 - So Joshua means “**God saves.**”
 - Going back to the English letters, why did God change the **O** to an **E** and make it Yeshua?
 - Yeshua refers Him directly to God and says “I AM.”
 - So Jesus’ name actually means – “I AM God your salvation.”
 - This is one of the reasons the religious leaders were so made when He would declare the I AM’s – 1. I AM the Door, 2. I AM the Way, 3. I AM the Good Shepherd, 4. I AM the Water of Life.
 - Every time He said this He was saying: “I AM God – the Door, the Bread, the Way.
 - This is Who and What Jesus is – HE is salvation – Don’t ever forget this as busy as it gets and as distracted as we are tempted to be to forget.
2. **Favor** [Mary] Luke 1:26-30 “Now is the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph of the house of David. The virgin’s name was

Mary. And having come in, the angel said to her, Rejoice, highly **avored** one, the Lord is with you, blessed are you among women! But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. Then the angel said to her, do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found **favor** with God.”

- What does the word **Favor** mean?
 - The word Favor is the Greek word – “charis.”
 - The word “charis” is the Greek word for GRACE.
 - 6 times in the N.T. is the word translated Favor.
 - 130 times, it’s translated Grace.
 - **FAVOR IS GRACE**
- “**For you have found grace in the eyes of the Lord.**”
- Gen. 6 – Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.

God was speaking this when His Son was born: HE was speaking salvation and HE was speaking grace.

This is the season and time of grace which means you have entered into a time when God has you as one of His favorites.

- You can have more than one favorite: you children are all your favorite.
- Favorite means “one on whom favor rests.”

So in all the ripping and running to do things and buy things and prepare things, don’t forget that God sent His Son to give His life for you because you are one of His favorites.

3. **Blessed** [Elisabeth] this prophecy was given through Elisabeth.

Luke 1:39 - 45 “Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elisabeth. And it happened when Elisabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb, and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Then she spoke [here is the prophetic] out with a loud voice and said: **Blessed** are you among women, and **blessed** is the fruit of your womb. But why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For indeed as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my

womb for joy. **Blessed** is she who believed for here will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord.”

The Greek word for “**blessed**” is *makarios* = “**HAPPY**.”

The Lord came to make us happy – there is a lie from satan that tells us that if you give your life to Jesus, you will never be happy again.

- People say: “Well, I want to have fun, so I’ll live my life and when I get old; I’ll give my life to Jesus.”
- I’ve lived, and so have many others, on the other side – and it’s not fun, there’s no true joy or peace, or nothing that lasts.
- Happiness and blessings come from Jesus only.

Acts 3:26 Peter preaching said to the Jews: “To you first, God, having raised up His Servant Jesus, **sent Him to bless you**, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities.”

This Christmas season remember the prophetic words from God the Father concerning why He sent His Son as a babe to become the Savior:

1. He was sent to be your personal **Savior**. He has paid the price to save you from the power of sin and redeem you to become His child and to inherit His Kingdom.
2. He has come to show you **Favor**. No matter who you are or where you have come from – you are one of His favorites.
3. He has come to **Bless** you. He wants you to have a happy, complete, fulfilled life and He knows the only way that is possible for you is to know Him and His plan for your life