

Title: "I saw the sign"

Text: Luke 1:6-23

Target: The belief of "unanswered prayer" is to assume that God is indifferent and uninterested and that today's message **REBELS** against that assumption!

I. **Unshaken Resolve:** (Luke 1:6-7)

- A. **Fruitfulness of their Faith:** *"And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord."* (Vs. 6)
- B. **Fruitlessness of their Family:** *"But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years."* (Vs.7)

II. **Unsuspecting Revelation:** (Luke 1:9-17)

- A. **Chosen to Serve:** *"according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense."* (Vs.9)
- B. **Confirmed by the Side:** *"And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense."* (Vs.11)
- C. **Called to have a Son:** *"But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John."* (Vs. 13)

- **Refrain from Alcohol:** *"must not drink wine or strong drink".* (Vs. 15)
- **Empowered by the Holy Spirit:** *"filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb"* (Vs. 15)
- **Baptizes in Repentance:** *"He will turn many of the children to Israel to the Lord their God."* (Vs. 16)
- **Elijah is personified:** *"and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just.."* (Vs. 17)
- **Levels all obstacles:** *"to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."* (Vs. 17)

III. **Unsure Response:** (Luke 1:18-23)

- A. **Need for Confirmation:** *"And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years."* (Vs. 18)
- B. **Need for Clarification:** *"And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news."* (Vs. 19)
- C. **Need for Correction:** *"And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time."* (Vs. 20)

Take Away: God's timing is perfect and precise all while being personal.