



# LUKE

GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY

# The True Path to Lasting JOY

*How the Songs of Mary, Zechariah, and Simeon Show Us  
the Source of Enduring Joy*

Lesson 1 – Joy to the World  
Week 2

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## Where Do We Find Real Joy?

- *Encountering God's presence*
- *Trusting His promises*
- *Rejoicing in His salvation*



Palestine in the  
Time of Christ,  
ca. A.D. 30



# The World of Luke 1-2

- Israel under Roman rule---longing for a Savior
- Centuries of prophetic silence
- God breaks in through ordinary people:
  - Zechariah and Elizabeth
  - Mary
  - Simeon



# I. Encountering God's Presence

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- **Zechariah's Joy (Luke 1:68)**
- *"Blessed be the Lord....for he has visited and redeemed His People."*
- Encounter with God in the temple.
- Initially doubts but later sings in joy.
- God's presence brings transformation and praise.



# I. Encountering God's Presence

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- **Mary's Joy (Luke 1:46-47)**
- *"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."*
- Mary is visited by the angel Gabriel.
- She is chosen, not because she is great, but because God is gracious.
- Joy comes from being in God's presence, not from easy circumstances.

# Reflection

## Encountering God's Presence

How can you create space in your daily life to become more aware of God's presence?

*"In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore" Psalm 16:11*

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## II. Trusting God's Promises

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- **Mary's Faith (Luke 1:54-55)**
- *"He has helped His servant Israel...as He spoke to our fathers."*
- Mary sees God's faithfulness to generations.
- She trusts His Word despite uncertainty.



## II. Trusting God's Promises

- **Zechariah's Confidence & Prophecy (Luke 1:72-73)**
- *"To show mercy...to remember His holy covenant, the oath He swore to our father Abraham."*
- His song (Benedictus) declares that God's promises never fail.
- Trusting God brings deep, stable joy—even after long waiting.





## II. Trusting God's Promises

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- **Simeon's Fulfilled Hope and Joy (Luke 2:29-30)**
- *Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace...for my eyes have seen Your salvation."*
- Trusted God's promise for a lifetime.
- Joy and peace came when he finally saw the Messiah.

# Reflect

## Trusting God's Promises

Are there areas in your life where you're struggling to trust God like Zechariah did at first?

What would it look like to surrender those to Him?

*"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope"*  
*Romans 15:13*

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# III. Rejoicing in God's Salvation

- Mary: "My spirit rejoices in God my Savior."
- Zechariah: "To give His people the knowledge of salvation.."
- Angels: "A Savior, who is Christ the Lord"
- Simeon: "My eyes have seen your salvation"
- Anna: "began...to speak of Him to all who were waiting on the redemption of Jerusalem"

# III. Rejoicing in God's Salvation

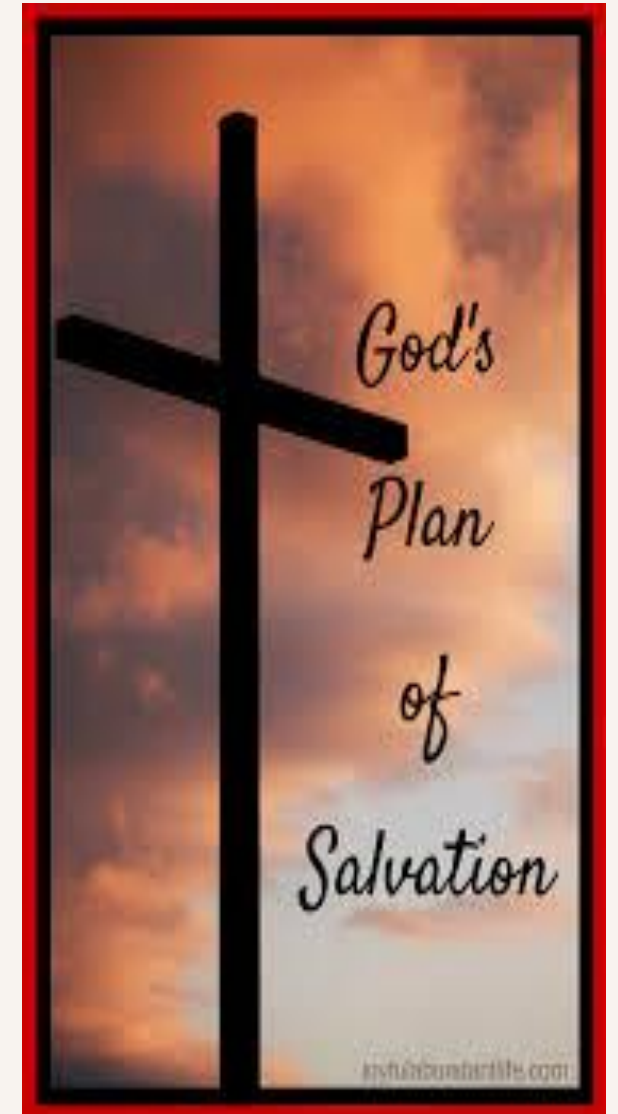
True Joy is rooted in the person and work of Christ.

Luke 19:10

“For the Son of Man came to seek and save the lost”.

Hebrews 12:2

“For the joy that lay before him, he endured the cross, despising the shame and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”



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# Reflect

## Rejoicing in God's Salvation

What does “rejoicing in salvation” look like practically in your life—at home, work, or in church?

*“I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God,  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation”*

*Isaiah 61:10*

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Can't We Find Joy Elsewhere?





The world chases after:

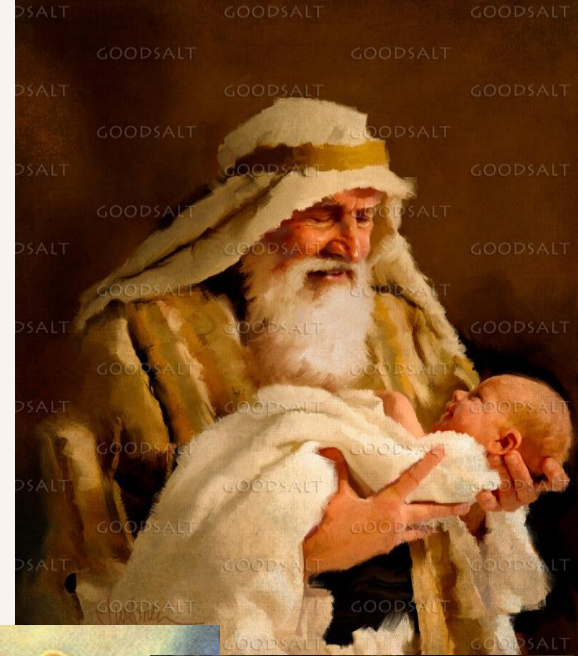
- Possessions
- Power
- Pleasure



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Joy is a gift---found in:

1. Encountering God's presence
2. Trusting His promises
3. Rejoicing in His salvation



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## A Call to Joy

Like Mary, Zechariah, and Simeon, we are invited to

***SING WITH JOY***

because Christ has come.

“My eyes have seen your salvation...” Luke 2:30



# How Can You Respond Today?

Which of the three areas do you most need to focus on this week to experience deeper JOY?

1. God's presence
2. God's promises
3. God's salvation

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