

THE MASTER PLAN BEHIND CHRISTMAS

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The birth of Jesus didn't "just happen". God had a plan from the beginning of time but instead of starting in Genesis let's focus on what Luke tells us in his book.

Luke tells us two stories; one about the birth of John and one about the birth of Jesus. We have the story of Jesus being born in a manger and we have the story of John in the womb of Elizabeth. The Bible tells us that Mary was a virgin and it also tells us that Elizabeth was barren. We have the story of Joseph in his carpenter's shop and the story of Zacharias in the temple.

Zacharias was the husband of Elizabeth. The name Zacharias means, "The Lord is faithful or the Lord keeps His word and the name Elizabeth means, "The oath or covenant." So when you combined these two names you get the phrase, "The Lord keeps his covenant." It was no coincidence that Zacharias asked Elizabeth to marry him and that thorough them God was going to keep His word.

The Bible says that "they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless." What a statement. What a testimony concerning the lives that they lived. No wonder God chose them. He is always mindful of those who live holy lives before Him.

What kind of woman was Mary? The Bible says that she was a virgin and "highly favored" by the Lord.

When God gets ready to do something, He looks for people who are living lives that are pleasing to Him.

When God looks at you, what does He see? Does He see a person who is living their life for Him or does He see someone who is living life for themselves? If God was looking for someone to use to carry out His plan, could He choose you?

God chose Zacharias and Elizabeth which means, "The Lord keeps his covenant" to have John who would be the forerunner of Jesus Christ. God chose Mary who was related to Elizabeth, because through the miracle of what was happening to Elizabeth, He would validate what was going to happen to this young virgin girl. When Mary got to where Elizabeth was, Elizabeth received the conformation because John leaped in her belly whenever Mary walked into the room. So when Mary and Elizabeth got together, Jesus and John got together and we see God working out His plan.

Not only did God have a master plan behind Christmas, He also has a master plan for each of our lives as well.

Will you allow His will to be done in your life?