

Luke: Miraculous Births

↪ **Luke 1:13-15** ; All births are miracles in broader sense, when you consider all that could go wrong, the odds are against a child coming to term. What a statement about the personhood of the unborn that we have here: **verses 39-44**. God has sort of thing for babies and births in the Bible and I wanted us to take our time together and see what we can learn from them.

1. Often, God's answer to a need throughout history has been a baby.

- ✓ When the Israelites needed deliverance from their bondage in Egypt, God's answer was a baby who named Moses. When the world needed saving from its bondage to sin and death, God's answer was a baby whom Mary and Joseph named Jesus.
- ✓ The world has always looked to God for a miracle to deliver them from all kinds of issues. God's miracle has often been the miracle of birth.

2. Long-haired miracle babies.

- ✓ John the Baptist's birth, announced by an angel, given to people who otherwise could not have children, is not unique in the biblical record. The conditions of how his life would be lived are not unique either: verse 15 "no wine or liquor," very unusual for a person of that day.
- ✓ A male with this vow did and didn't do a number of things including no alcohol (or even anything that came from a grape) and not cutting their hair for the duration of their vow. Samson's birth and life had some extreme similarities to John's: **Judges 13:2-5** sounds like John in many ways.
- ✓ We knew about Samson, but maybe not John the Baptist, but did you know about Samuel?, **1st Samuel 1:10-11**.

3. A child named "Laughter"

- ✓ We were told that Zacharias and Elizabeth would rejoice over the birth of John, lots of joy filled days were these two last days with their son. But they weren't the first older couple to rejoice over the birth of a son: Abraham and Sarah hold that title.
- ✓ When Sarah heard the news, she laughed because it was impossible. The ones who laughed last were Abraham and Sarah who did have a son when they were 100 and 90 years respectively, and they named him Isaac which is the Hebrew word for laughter.
- ✓ God was making a monumental point, the message of the Scriptures: the answer to the world's problems would be a baby; that Baby would be a miracle; His birth, life, death, and resurrection would bring joy and laughter to all who received it.

4. The Most miraculous of births

This most miraculous of all birth's was the oldest birth predicted in the Bible, Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:34-35.
