

BIBLE STUDY 1/23/14

Psalm 42

As the deer pants for the water
brooks,

So my soul pants for You, O God.

² My soul thirsts for God, for the living
God;

When shall I come and appear before
God?

³ My tears have been my food day and
night,

While *they* say to me all day long,
"Where is your God?"

⁴ These things I remember and I pour
out my soul within me.

For I used to go along with the
throng *and* lead them in procession to
the house of God,
With the voice of joy and thanksgiving,
a multitude keeping festival.

⁵ Why are you in despair/deeply
grieved, O my soul?

And *why* have you become disturbed
within me?

Hope in God, for I shall again
praise Him

For the help of His presence.

⁶ O my God, my soul is in
despair/deeply grieved within me;
Therefore I remember You from the
land of the Jordan

And the peaks of Hermon, from Mount
Mizar.

⁷ Deep calls to deep at the sound of
Your waterfalls;

All Your breakers and Your waves have
rolled over me.

⁸ The LORD will command His
lovingkindness in the daytime;
And His song will be with me in the
night,

A prayer to the God of my life.

⁹ I will say to God my rock, "Why have
You forgotten me?"

Why do I go mourning because of
the oppression of the enemy?"

¹⁰ As a shattering of my bones, my
adversaries revile me,
While they say to me all day long,
"Where is your God?"

¹¹ Why are you in despair/deeply
grieved, O my soul?

And why have you become disturbed
within me?

Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him,
The help of my countenance and my
God.

Psalm 43

Vindicate me, O God, and plead my
case against an ungodly nation;
O deliver me from the deceitful and
unjust man!

² For You are the God of my strength;
why have You rejected me?

Why do I go mourning because of the
oppression of the enemy?

³ O send out Your light and Your truth,
let them lead me;

Let them bring me to Your holy hill
And to Your dwelling places.

⁴ Then I will go to the altar of God,
To God my exceeding joy;
And upon the lyre I shall praise You, O
God, my God.

⁵ Why are you in despair/deeply
grieved, O my soul?

And why are you disturbed within me?
Hope in God, for I shall again praise

Him,
The help of my countenance and my
God.

Luke's Characters Sing

Zacharias' Song

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel...And you, child (John the Baptist in his arms)...will go on before the Lord to prepare His ways; to give to His people the knowledge of salvation...To shine upon those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.

Angels' Song

Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people...Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased.

Simeone's Song

For my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, A light of revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel.

In Concert with Isaiah's Songs

Isaiah

9:2 (Concerning Galilee of the Gentiles): The people who walk in darkness will see a great light; those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them.

42:6 I am Yahweh, I have called you in righteousness, I will also hold you by the hand and watch over you, and I will appoint you as a covenant to the people, as a light to the nations.

49:6 Yahweh says to Israel, "I will make you a light of the nations so that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

51:4 Pay attention to Me, O My people...I will set My justice for a light of the peoples/gentiles; the gentile coastlands will hope for Me, and for My arm they will hope expectantly.

60:1-3 Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of Yahweh has risen upon you and His glory will appear upon you (Israel). Nations will come to your light and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Isaiah 40:3-5

A voice is calling,
"Clear the way for the
LORD in the
wilderness; make
smooth in the desert a
highway for our God,
Let every valley be
lifted up, and every
mountain and hill be
made low; and let the
rough ground become
a plain, and the rugged
terrain a broad valley;
then the glory of the
LORD will be revealed
and all flesh will see
the salvation of God.

Luke's quote of Isaiah

The voice of one crying
in the wilderness,
'Make ready the way of
the LORD, make His
paths straight, Every
ravine will be filled,
and every mountain
and hill will be brought
low;
The crooked will
become straight, and
the rough roads
smooth; and all flesh
will see the salvation of
God."

Matthew's quote of
Isaiah

The voice of one crying
in the wilderness,
'Make ready the way of
the LORD, make His
paths straight!"

Mark's quote of Isaiah

The voice of one crying
in the wilderness;
'Make ready the way of
the LORD, make His
paths straight.'

Psalm 67

a. (2) May **Elohim** show favor to us and **bless us**.

May he shine His face on us.

b. (3) To know on **the earth** Your path,

In all the nations Your salvation.

c. (4) **May the people praise You, Elohim,**

May all the people praise You.

X. (5) May the people rejoice and shout for joy

For You judge the people with fairness,

And the people of the earth You will guide.

c. (6) **May the people praise You, Elohim**

May all the people praise You.

b. (7) **The earth** gives its harvest, Elohim,

Our Elohim will bless us.

a. (8) **Elohim** will **bless us**,

All the ends of the earth will fear Him.

Numbers 6:24-26 (a blessing
specifically given to Israel)

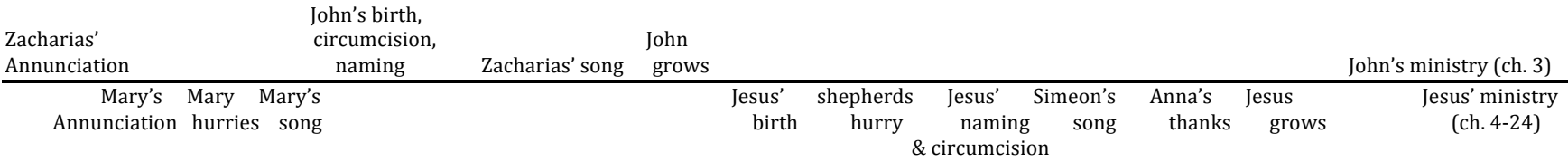
²⁴ Yahweh bless you and keep
you; ²⁵ Yahweh make his face
to shine upon you and be
gracious to you; ²⁶ Yahweh lift
up His face upon you and grant
you peace (shalom)

Psalm 67:2

May Elohim be gracious to us
and bless us.

May He shine His face on us.

TIMELINE
LUKE 1 & 2



Comparing the Births of Jesus and John

John

1:57 Now the time had come for Elizabeth to give birth, and she gave birth to a son.

1:58 Elizabeth's neighbors and her relatives heard that the Lord had displayed His great mercy toward her; and they were rejoicing with her.

1:63 And Zacharias asked for a tablet and wrote as follows, "His name is John." And they were all astonished.

1:66 All who heard [what happened when Zacharias' mouth was released from being mute] in their heart, were saying, "What then will this child turn out to be?" For the hand of the Lord was certainly with him.

Jesus

2:6-7 While they were [in Bethlehem] the days were completed for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

2:10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all people. ...20 The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen.

2:18 And all who heard it were astonished at the things which were told them about this Child.

2:19 But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart.

Repentance and Road-building

Luke 3

³ And John came into all the district around the Jordan, preaching a **baptism of repentance** for the forgiveness of sins; ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

"THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS,
'MAKE READY THE WAY OF THE LORD,
MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT.

⁵ 'EVERY RAVINE WILL BE FILLED,
AND EVERY MOUNTAIN AND HILL WILL BE BROUGHT LOW;
THE CROOKED WILL BECOME STRAIGHT,
AND THE ROUGH ROADS SMOOTH;

⁶ AND ALL FLESH WILL SEE THE SALVATION OF GOD.'"

⁷ So he *began* saying to the crowds who were going out to be **baptized** by him, "You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Therefore bear fruits in keeping with **repentance**...

What is Luke/John saying that repentance looks like?

Think of the Roman roads

[**Roman roads** were vital to the maintenance and development of the Roman state, and were built from about 500 BC. Roman roads were of several kinds, ranging from small local roads to broad, long-distance highways built to connect cities, major towns and military bases. These major roads were often stone-paved and metaled, cambered for drainage, and were flanked by footpaths, and drainage ditches. They were laid along accurately surveyed courses, and some were cut through hills, or conducted over rivers and ravines on bridgework. Sections could be supported over marshy ground on rafted or piled foundations.

The inclusio around Luke's gospel and his book of Acts begins with the allusions to Isaiah in the songs of the characters in the first two chapters of Luke and the quotation of Isaiah in the introduction of John the Baptist, and ends with a quotation of Isaiah from Paul's mouth at the conclusion of Acts. These two quotes and Paul's assessment at the end of the quote in Acts, prepares us for an important theme in Luke—the inclusion, in God's plan, of the gentiles.

Luke 3

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness,
'Make ready the way of the LORD,
Make His paths straight.
Every ravine will be filled,
And every mountain
and hill will be brought low;
The crooked will become
straight,
And the rough roads smooth;
And all flesh will see the
salvation of God.'"

Acts 28

...the Jews came to Paul at his lodging in large numbers; and he was explaining to them by solemnly testifying about the kingdom of God and trying to persuade them concerning Jesus, from both the Law of Moses and from the Prophets, from morning until evening...And when they did not agree with one another, they began leaving after Paul had spoken one parting word, "The Holy Spirit rightly spoke through Isaiah the prophet to your fathers, saying, 'You will keep on hearing, but will not understand; You will keep on seeing, but will not perceive; For the heart of the people has become dull...'"

Therefore, [says Paul], let it be known to you that this salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles; they will also listen."

