



RENEW. REBUILD. REKINDLE.

Luke 2:10-11

*“Hope Delayed/Hope Renewed”*

Luke 2:10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, **behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.**

11 **For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.**

### Introduction

When Jesus was born, a new hope arrived for Israel. Zacharias and Elizabeth, plus Simeon in the Temple, all announced the arrival of the Savior of Israel. The shepherds heard and saw the proof of the wondrous birth of the Savior. Much curiosity and joy of anticipation permeated Judea when Jesus was born.

# I. THE DECLARATION OF HOPE

## A. The Announcements

### 1. To Joseph

Mt. 1:21 And **she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS**: for he shall save his people from their sins.

## 2.To Mary

Luke 1:30 And the angel said unto her, **Fear not, Mary:** for thou hast found favour with God.

31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and **the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:**

33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

### 3.To the Shepherds

Luke 2:10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, **behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.**

**11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.**

## 4.To Zacharias

Luke 1:67 And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying,

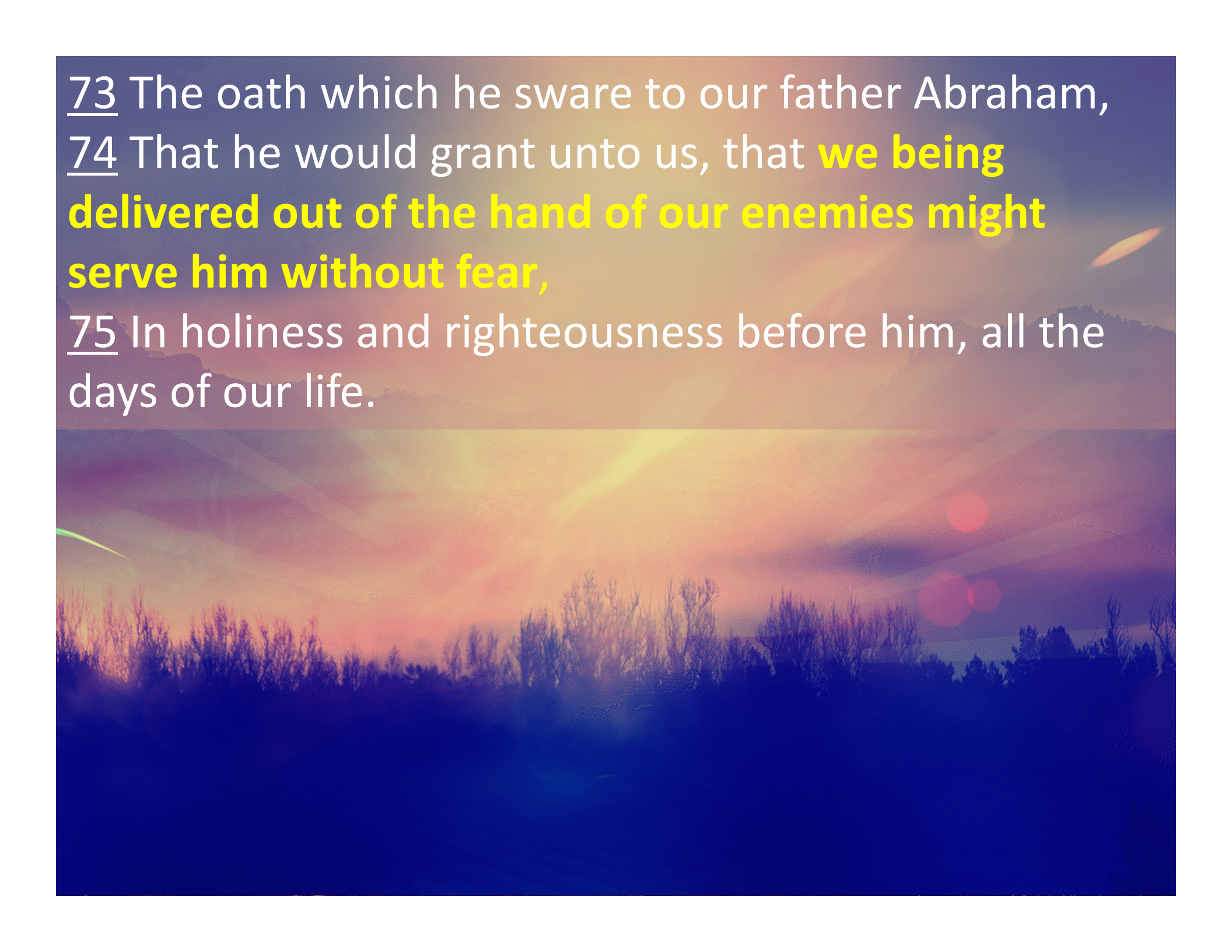
68 Blessed *be* the Lord God of Israel; for **he hath visited and redeemed his people,**

69 And **hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David;**

70 As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began:

71 That **we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us;**

72 To perform the mercy *promised* to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant;

A background image of a sunset or sunrise over a field with trees. The sky is filled with warm colors like orange, yellow, and red, with some lens flare effects. The foreground shows the dark silhouettes of trees and a field. A semi-transparent text box is overlaid on the upper portion of the image.

73 The oath which he sware to our father Abraham,  
74 That he would grant unto us, that **we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear,**  
75 In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.

## 5.To Herod

Mt. 2:1 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea **in the days of Herod the king**, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,  
2 Saying, **Where is he that is born King of the Jews?** for we have seen his star in the east, and are come **to worship him.**

3 When Herod the king had heard *these things*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.



## 6.To Simeon

Luke 2:25 And, **behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon**; and the same man *was* just and devout, **waiting for the consolation of Israel**: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.

26 And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that **he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ**.

27 And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law,

28 Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

29 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,  
according to thy word:

30 **For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,**

31 Which thou hast prepared before the face of all  
people;

32 A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy  
people Israel.

- The announcements that the Savior had arrived must have stirred renewed hope and anticipation to the Jews.

## B. The Anticipation

- At the birth of Jesus, new hope appeared, breaking over 400 years of silence since the Jews heard anything from God.
- So many people received the “good news” that the Savior was born, the King of the Jews – anticipation was permeating Judea.
- Often, our lives have incidents that brighten our hopes for something better than what we have.

## II. THE DELAY OF HOPE

- THEN... thirty years passed and nothing noticeably happened. Perhaps people were confused, discouraged, and simply dejected.

Prov. 13:12a “**Hope deferred maketh the heart sick...**”

### A. The Anxiety

- The delay of hope produces a sense of hopelessness. People are “heart sick” and “give up.”

- When we are hoping for and anticipating a new blessing, we are too often “crushed” and disappointed when it fails to happen.
- Discouraged people become disgruntled people, railing against God and His leadership.

Num. 21:4 And they journeyed from mount Hor by the way of the Red sea, to compass the land of Edom: and **the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way.**

5 And **the people spake against God, and against Moses,** Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for *there is* no bread, neither *is there any* water; and our soul loatheth this light bread.

- The years in the wilderness were due to a bad decision on Israel' part. The Lord was preparing them for their settlement in the Promised Land.
- During the delay of 30 years after the Savior's birth, the Lord was setting the stage for the Messiah's entrance and ministry.
- A delay is not necessarily a closed door to hope, but perhaps a misunderstanding of God's timing and an opportunity to "wait upon the Lord."

Isa. 40:31 But **they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength**; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; *and* they shall walk, and not faint.

- Remember Moses in Egypt – a 40-year delay, then the exodus began.

## B. The Acceptance

- God's time-table is too often obscure to mankind. We must cultivate an "attitude of acceptance" to trust Him and His timing.
- Patience and perseverance are needed = wait upon the Lord.

Prov. 3:5 **Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.**

6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and **he shall direct thy paths.**

❖ Regarding Moses, imagine 40 years delay and THEN – the suffering after Moses returned. Pharaoh increased the burdens, then the 10 plagues BEFORE leaving.

2 Tim. 2:3 Thou therefore **endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.**

4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may **please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.**



## C. The Anticipation

- THEN...John the Baptist began his ministry as the one to prepare the way for the Messiah.
- John the Baptist was preparing for his role of the one crying in the wilderness.

Mt. 3:1 **In those days came John the Baptist, preaching** in the wilderness of Judaea,  
2 And saying, **Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**

3 For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

- At the baptism of Jesus, John the Baptist heard confirmation of the arrival of the new hope.

Mark 1:11 And there came a voice from heaven, saying, **Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.**

- The promise given will come to pass because God cannot lie!

Titus 1:2 **In hope** of eternal life, **which God, that cannot lie, promised** before the world began;

- The thirty years of postponement was quickly forgotten after John the Baptist and Jesus arrived on the scene in Palestine!

### III. THE DISPLAY OF HOPE

Prov. 13:12 Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: **but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life.**

- Sometimes a backslidden believer needs a renewed heart and spirit, but there are times when a discouraged disciple needs a renewed hope to revive the soul!

## A. The Arrival

Luke 3:3 And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins;

4 As it is written in the book of the words of Esaias the prophet, saying, **The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.**

5 **Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways *shall be* made smooth;**

6 **And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.**

## B. The Announcement

Mark 1:11 And there came a voice from heaven, saying, **Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.**

- The announcement at the Lord's baptism was similar to the one heard on the Mount of Transfiguration:

Mt. 17:5 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, **This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.**

❖ The announcement to “...hear ye him.” = pay attention to what He says applies to the Lord’s entire ministry.

### C. The Attentiveness

Mark 2:18 And the disciples of John and of the Pharisees used to fast: and they come and say unto him, Why do the disciples of John and of the Pharisees fast, but thy disciples fast not?

19 And Jesus said unto them, **Can the children of the bridechamber fast, while the bridegroom is with them? as long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast.**



1. As disciples, they were attentive to the Lord's teachings.

2. They were attentive to follow His leadership to where He led them, in obedience to do what they were commanded to do.

3. They were attentive to pray as He taught them to pray.

4. They were attentive to implement the Great Commission.

- The new hope brought new responsibility to the followers of Christ.

Jn. 13:17 **If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.**

### Summary

- Hope is apparently presented.
- Hope is deferred, disappointment prevails.
- Hope requires waiting trusting in God's time-table.
- Hope is restored, joy accompanies, spirits renewed.
- Hope motivates believers to love and obedience of the Lord Jesus Christ!



## Conclusion

Heb. 10:23 Let us hold fast the profession of *our* faith without wavering; (for **he is faithful that promised;**)

24 And let us consider one another to **provoke unto love and to good works:**

25 **Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together,** as the manner of some *is*; but exhorting *one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*