



Women of the Bible

Elizabeth – Righteousness in Action

Lesson 17

The account of Elizabeth and her pregnancy can be easily overlooked as it occurred nearly at the same time as Mary was pregnant with Jesus our Lord and Savior. But this week, as we study Elizabeth's life, we will not let it be overshadowed. Her story is in the Word for a reason so let's take a look and see what we can learn from her. Mary and Elizabeth are cousins and both end up pregnant at the same time. Elizabeth is way beyond child bearing years and Mary is only a teenager and yet to be married. What is God up to? Miracles! Both of these women were favored by God and both of them were about to be part of God's plan to save mankind. Elizabeth and her husband Zacharias were a righteous, God-fearing couple and God heard their prayer for a child. Elizabeth conceiving a son in her old age was nothing short of a miracle. Let it forever be a reminder to us that our God is a God who performs miracles. Trust Him as Elizabeth did and wait for the blessings He has in store for you.

Open your Bible and begin with a word of prayer

This Week's Scripture: Luke 1:8-25

⁸So it was, that while he was serving as priest before God in the order of his division, ⁹according to the custom of the priesthood, his lot fell to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord. ¹⁰And the whole multitude of the people was praying outside at the hour of incense. ¹¹Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. ¹³But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. ¹⁴And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. ¹⁵For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall

drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. ¹⁶And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."¹⁸And Zacharias said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years."¹⁹And the angel answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings. ²⁰But behold, you will be mute and not able to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time."²¹And the people waited for Zacharias, and marveled that he lingered so long in the temple. ²²But when he came out, he could not speak to them; and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple, for he beckoned to them and remained speechless.²³So it was, as soon as the days of his service were completed, that he departed to his own house. ²⁴Now after those days his wife Elizabeth conceived; and she hid herself five months, saying, ²⁵"Thus the Lord has dealt with me, in the days when He looked on me, to take away my reproach among people." Should you want to learn more about Elizabeth's story, read the rest of Luke 1

This Week's Memory Verse:

**If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

1 John 1:9(NKJV)

Righteous: Just, lawful, upright, faultless, innocent and guiltless.

1. In looking at the meaning of "righteous" above, we should recognize right away that we fall very short. In fact Romans 3:10 tells us that, "There is none righteous, no, not one." Look up the verses below and note what each one tells us about righteousness.
 - a. 1 Corinthians 1:30-31: _____

 - b. 2 Corinthians 5:21: _____

 - c. Philippians 3:9: _____

 - d. What is our conclusion? How do we become righteous? _____

