Luke 1

Ch 1

Theme – Introduction by Luke (acknowledgement of other Gospels by eyewitnesses & faithful servants; why Luke is writing – so "Theophilus" would know the truth about what he has been taught); Gabriel brings word to Zacharias of birth of John the Baptist while Zacharias serving at Altar of Incense in Temple; Zacharias doubts & will be mute until birth of JTB; Elizabeth conceives & goes into seclusion for five months; Gabriel goes to Mary; Mary is told she will conceive the Messiah & call His name, Jesus; Mary is confused because she is a virgin (no rebuke for Mary's question); Gabriel explains she will conceive by power of the Holy Spirit; pregnancy of Elizabeth is a sign to Mary. Mary submits to the will of God; Mary goes to visit Elizabeth (needs to see Elizabeth for herself); Elizabeth is 6 mths pregnant & visibly showing; Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, prophesies; the Magnificat of Mary (Magnificat is Latin for magnify or exalt in v46); Mary stays with Elizabeth for 3 mths (likely until JTB is born); birth of JTB; baby is named "John" despite no relatives with that name; when Zacharias agrees that baby is to be named John (giving up naming rights), Lord restores his speech; filled with the Holy Spirit (like Elizabeth); Zacharias prophesies & praises God for coming salvation through the Messiah & also over JTB; JTB grows in the wilderness until his public ministry begins