

# HYMN OF ZECHARIAH—NATIONAL SALVATION

Date: December 21, 2025 - Luke 1:67-80

Central Idea: God keeps His promises and is faithful to His covenants. Are you trusting God's promises?

Introduction:

Mary's song connects the praise of Old Testament and New Testament, and Zechariah's message connects the prophecy of both Testaments. Zechariah's song is a prophecy which was spoken under the illuminating guidance of the Holy Spirit. Only God knows the future and only by God can anyone else know it. This great utterance begins on the note "blessed," and ends on the note "peace." (vv. 68, 79)

## I. Praise to God for messianic deliverance, vv. 68-75

1. Exhortation to praise God, v. 68a
2. Reason God should be praised, v. 68b
3. Resumption of prophetic revelation, vv. 68-70
4. Purpose and work of the coming Messiah, vv. 70-72
5. Work of the Messiah with the Abrahamic covenant, vv. 73-75

## II. Significant role of John the Baptist, vv. 76-79

1. A prophet of the Most High, v. 76, Isaiah 40:3, Malachi 3:1
2. Will give his people knowledge of salvation, v. 77
3. The need and means of salvation, vv. 78-79

Conclusion:

Zechariah had "remained speechless" all those months. Corroborating his wife's declaration, "He (the child) will be called John" (v. 60) by a flat statement in writing, "His name is John" (v. 63), "immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue set free." When faith was shown, speech came again, and Zechariah quickly used it in praising God for remembering His promises after four centuries of silence. Then he foretold what John the Baptist would be and do.

The mind of the author of this beautiful song was full of Scripture; almost every verse containing some allusion. In verse 67 it is called a prophecy, or inspired utterance, and it has been referred to as the last prophecy of the old dispensation and the first prophecy of the new. Thus, it forms a link between the two.