



## CHRIST IN STRANGE PLACES

### **God Is Not Yet Done**

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Luke 1:5-7; 11-18

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### **Luke 1:5-7; 11-18**

In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. Both of them were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly. But they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old...

Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John. He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born. He will bring back many of the

people of Israel to the Lord their God. And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.” Zechariah asked the angel, “How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years.”



Elizabeth & Zechariah

## Cultural Chaos & Personal Pain

Jesus came during the darkest hour, bringing hope and light.

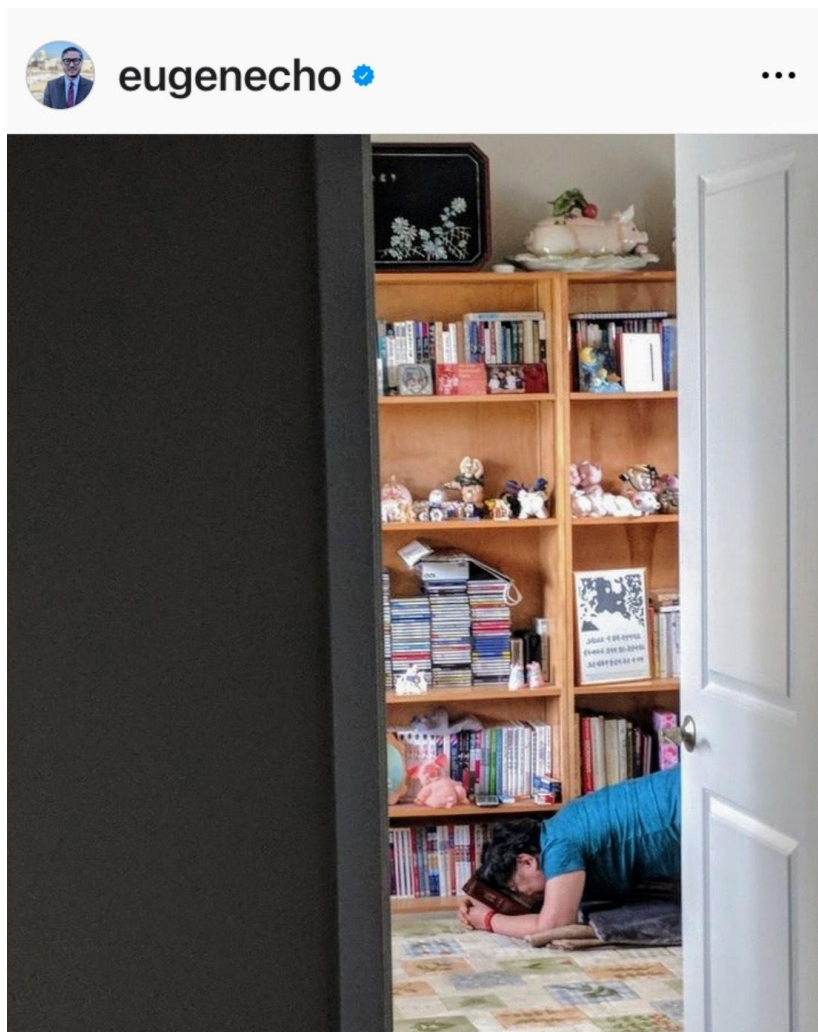
Even in times of apparent silence, God is not absent.

God is at work.

God is not yet done.

How was Zechariah and Elizabeth able to experience peace?

- They remained righteous in the sight of God.
- They were faithful. They kept doing what they were called to do.
- They waited for the Lord.



"Waiting time is not wasting time. Waiting patiently in expectation is the foundation of the spiritual life."

- Henri Nouwen



**John 1:14** (The Message)

The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood.