

Luke 1

Chapter 1 of 24 · 80 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Dedication to Theophilus

- 1** Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us,
- 2** Even as they delivered them unto us, which from the beginning were eyewitnesses, and ministers of the word;
- 3** It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus,
- 4** That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed.

The Birth of John the Baptist Foretold

- 5** There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judaea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the course of Abia: and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth.
- 6** And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.
- 7** And they had no child, because that Elisabeth was barren, and they both were now well stricken in years.
- 8** And it came to pass, that while he executed the priest's office before God in the order of his course,
- 9** According to the custom of the priest's office, his lot was to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord.

- 10 And the whole multitude of the people were praying without at the time of incense.
- 11 And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense.
- 12 And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.
- 13 But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.
- 14 And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth.
- 15 For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb.
- 16 And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God.
- 17 And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, 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.
- 18 And Zacharias said unto the angel, Whereby shall I know this? for I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years.
- 19 And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings.
- 20 And, behold, thou shalt be dumb, and not able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not my words, which shall be fulfilled in their season.
- 21 And the people waited for Zacharias, and marvelled that he tarried so long in the temple.
- 22 And when he came out, he could not speak unto them: and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple: for he beckoned unto them, and remained speechless.

- 23 And it came to pass, that, as soon as the days of his ministration were accomplished, he departed to his own house.
- 24 And after those days his wife Elisabeth conceived, and hid herself five months, saying,
- 25 Thus hath the Lord dealt with me in the days wherein he looked on me, to take away my reproach among men.
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The Birth of Jesus Foretold

- 26 And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,
- 27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.
- 28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.
- 29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.
- 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.
- 34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?
- 35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

- 36 And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren.
- 37 For with God nothing shall be impossible.
- 38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.
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Mary Visits Elisabeth

- 39 And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda;
- 40 And entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth.
- 41 And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost:
- 42 And she spake out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.
- 43 And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?
- 44 For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy.
- 45 And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord.
- 46 And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord,
- 47 And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
- 48 For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
- 49 For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is his name.
- 50 And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation.

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- 51 He hath shewed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
- 52 He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree.
- 53 He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.
- 54 He hath holpen his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy;
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- 55 As he spake to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed for ever.
- 56 And Mary abode with her about three months, and returned to her own house.
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The Birth of John the Baptist

- 57 Now Elisabeth's full time came that she should be delivered; and she brought forth a son.
- 58 And her neighbours and her cousins heard how the Lord had shewed great mercy upon her; and they rejoiced with her.
- 59 And it came to pass, that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; and they called him Zacharias, after the name of his father.
- 60 And his mother answered and said, Not so; but he shall be called John.
- 61 And they said unto her, There is none of thy kindred that is called by this name.
- 62 And they made signs to his father, how he would have him called.
- 63 And he asked for a writing table, and wrote, saying, His name is John. And they marvelled all.
- 64 And his mouth was opened immediately, and his tongue loosed, and he spake, and praised God.
- 65 And fear came on all that dwelt round about them: and all these sayings were noised abroad throughout all the hill country of Judaea.

⁶⁶ And all they that heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, What manner of child shall this be! And the hand of the Lord was with him.

Zechariah's Prophecy

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;

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.

⁷⁶ And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;

⁷⁷ To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins,

⁷⁸ Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,

⁷⁹ To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

80 And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Altar — θυσιαστήριον (Thusiastērion)

Altar

The Greek **thusiastērion** (θυσιαστήριον) denotes an altar for sacrifice. Hebrews 13:10 declares 'We have an altar' from which temple priests cannot eat—referring to Christ's sacrifice outside the camp.

Angel — ἄγγελος (Angelos)

Angel, messenger

The Greek **angelos** (ἄγγελος) means angel or messenger. Angels announced Christ's birth (Luke 2:9-14), ministered to Him (Matthew 4:11), and will accompany His return (Matthew 25:31).

Believe — πιστεύω (Pisteuo)

To believe, trust, have faith

The Greek **pisteuo** (πιστεύω) means to believe or trust—active reliance upon Christ. 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish' (John 3:16).

Covenant — διαθήκη (Diatheke)

Covenant, testament

The Greek **diatheke** (διαθήκη) means covenant or testament—a binding arrangement. The New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34) is ratified by Christ's blood, surpassing the old (Hebrews 8:6-13).

God — Θεός (Theos)

God

The Greek **Theos** (Θεός) refers to deity, used both for the one true God and false gods. Context determines whether it denotes the Father specifically or the Godhead generally.

Holy — ἅγιος (Hagios)

Holy, sacred, set apart

The Greek **hagios** (ἅγιος) denotes holiness—moral purity and separation unto God. Believers are called 'saints' (hagioi), those set apart for God through Christ's sanctifying work.

Kingdom — βασιλεία (Basileia)

Kingdom, reign

The Greek **basileia** (βασιλεία) means kingdom—both the realm ruled and the exercise of royal authority. The 'kingdom of God' is central to Jesus' teaching, representing God's saving rule breaking into history.

Lord — Κύριος (Kurios)

Lord, Master

The Greek **Kurios** (Κύριος) means 'lord' or 'master,' used both for human masters and divinely for God the Father and Jesus Christ. Its application to Jesus affirms His deity, as it translates YHWH in the Septuagint.

Mercy — ἔλεος (Eleos)

Mercy, compassion

The Greek **eleos** (ἔλεος) denotes compassionate mercy—pity for those in distress. God is 'rich in mercy' (Ephesians 2:4), withholding deserved punishment and granting undeserved kindness.

Priest — ἱερεύς (Hiereus)

Priest

The Greek **hiereus** (ἱερεύς) means priest. Christ is our eternal High Priest (Hebrews 4:14) after the order of Melchizedek, and believers form a 'royal priesthood' (1 Peter 2:9).

Prophet — προφήτης (Prophētēs)

Prophet

The Greek **prophētēs** (προφήτης) denotes a prophet—one who speaks forth God's message. Jesus was recognized as 'a prophet mighty in deed and word' (Luke 24:19), fulfilling and surpassing the prophetic office.

Righteous — δίκαιος (Dikaios)

Righteous, just

The Greek **dikaios** (δίκαιος) means righteous or just—conforming to God's standard. Christ's righteousness is imputed to believers through faith (Romans 4:5), making them legally righteous before God.

Salvation — σωτηρία (Soteria)

Salvation, deliverance

The Greek **soteria** (σωτηρία) denotes salvation, deliverance, or preservation—rescue from sin's penalty and power. It encompasses justification, sanctification, and glorification.

Sin — ἁμαρτία (Hamartia)

Sin, missing the mark

The Greek **hamartia** (ἁμαρτία) means sin—missing the target of God's perfection. 'All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God' (Romans 3:23), requiring Christ's atoning sacrifice.

Spirit — πνεῦμα (Pneuma)

Spirit, wind, breath

The Greek **pneuma** (πνεῦμα) means spirit, wind, or breath—the immaterial aspect of persons. The Holy Spirit (Pneuma Hagion) is the third person of the Trinity, dwelling in believers.

Word — λόγος (Logos)

Word, reason, message

The Greek **Logos** (Λόγος) means word, reason, or message—the rational principle underlying reality. John identifies Christ as the eternal Logos: 'In the beginning was the Word' (John 1:1).

CROSS REFERENCES

Luke 1:1 **Faith:** John 20:31

Luke 1:2

Witness: Luke 24:48; John 15:27; Acts 1:8; 26:16; 1 Peter 5:1; 2 Peter 1:16. **Parallel theme:** Mark 1:1; Acts 1:3; 4:20; Hebrews 2:3

Luke 1:3 **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:1; Acts 1:1; 11:4; 15:19; 23:26; 24:3; 26:25. **Good:** Ecclesiastes 12:9; Acts 15:25; 15:28

Luke 1:4 **Parallel theme:** John 20:31; Acts 18:25

Luke 1:5 **Parallel theme:** 1 Chronicles 24:10; 24:19; Nehemiah 12:4; 12:17. **Kingdom:** Matthew 2:1

Luke 1:6 **Righteousness:** Genesis 7:1. **References God:** Genesis 17:1; Job 1:1; 1:8; Acts 24:16; Philippians 2:15; 1 Thessalonians 3:13. **Parallel theme:** 1 Kings 9:4

Luke 1:7 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 17:17; 18:11; 25:21; 1 Samuel 1:2; 2 Kings 4:14; Hebrews 11:11

Luke 1:8 **References God:** 1 Chronicles 24:19; 2 Chronicles 8:14. **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:5; Exodus 28:1; 28:41; 29:1; 29:9; 29:44; 30:30; 2 Chronicles 31:2

Luke 1:9

References Lord: Numbers 16:40; 1 Chronicles 23:13; 2 Chronicles 29:11. **Parallel theme:** 1 Samuel 2:28

Luke 1:10 **Parallel theme:** Leviticus 16:17. **Prayer:** Revelation 8:3

Luke 1:11 **References Lord:** Judges 13:3

Luke 1:12 **Parallel theme:** Judges 6:22; 13:22

Luke 1:13 **Prayer:** Acts 10:31. **Parallel theme:** Luke 2:21; Genesis 17:19; 18:14; 25:21; 1 Samuel 2:21; Psalms 113:9; 118:21; Isaiah 8:3; Matthew 14:27

Luke 1:14 **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:58; Genesis 21:6; Proverbs 15:20; 23:15; 23:24

Luke 1:15

Holy: Jeremiah 1:5; Acts 2:4. **Spirit:** Ephesians 5:18. **Parallel theme:** Luke 7:33; 1 Chronicles 17:8; 29:12; Psalms 22:9; Galatians 1:15. **References Lord:** Joshua 3:7; 4:14

Luke 1:16 **Parallel theme:** Daniel 12:3; Matthew 21:32. **References Israel:** Isaiah 49:6. **References Lord:** Luke 1:76; Malachi 3:1

Luke 1:17

Parallel theme: Matthew 11:14; John 3:28; Colossians 1:12; 1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 20:4.

References Lord: Luke 1:76; 1 Chronicles 29:18; Psalms 111:10. **Spirit:** Psalms 78:8; Isaiah 29:24

Luke 1:18 **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:7; 1:34; Genesis 15:8; 17:17; 18:12; 2 Kings 7:2; Isaiah 38:22

Luke 1:19 **References God:** Luke 1:26. **Parallel theme:** Daniel 8:16; Matthew 18:10

Luke 1:20 **Parallel theme:** Ezekiel 3:26; 24:27; Hebrews 6:18; Revelation 3:19

Luke 1:22 **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:62

Luke 1:23 **Parallel theme:** 1 Chronicles 9:25

Luke 1:25

Parallel theme: Luke 1:13; Isaiah 4:1; Hebrews 11:11. **References Lord:** Genesis 25:21; 1 Samuel 1:6

Luke 1:26 **Parallel theme:** Luke 2:4; Matthew 2:23; John 7:41. **References God:** Luke 1:19

Luke 1:27 **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:16; 1:18; 1:23

Luke 1:28 **References Lord:** Judges 6:12; Daniel 10:19; Hosea 14:2. **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:30; Isaiah 43:5; Matthew 12:48; Acts 18:10; Ephesians 1:6. **Blessing:** Luke 1:42; Judges 5:24

Luke 1:29 **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:12; Acts 10:4; 10:17

Luke 1:30 **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:13; 12:32; Isaiah 41:14; 44:2; Matthew 14:27; 28:5; Hebrews 13:6. **References God:** Isaiah 41:10; Acts 27:24; Romans 8:31

Luke 1:31 **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:13; 1:27; Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23; Galatians 4:4.

References Jesus: Luke 2:21; Matthew 1:21; 1:25

Luke 1:32

References David: Isaiah 16:5; Revelation 3:7. **References God:** Luke 1:35; Mark 5:7; Acts 2:30; Romans 1:4. **References Lord:** Luke 1:76; Psalms 132:11. **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 7:16; Matthew 28:18

Luke 1:33

Kingdom: 2 Samuel 7:16; Psalms 45:6; Daniel 2:44; 7:18; 7:27; Micah 4:7; Hebrews 1:8; Revelation 11:15. **Parallel theme:** Matthew 28:18; Galatians 3:29

Luke 1:35 **Holy:** Matthew 1:18; 1:20; Mark 1:24; Romans 1:4. **References God:** Matthew 27:54; John 1:34; 1:49. **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:27; Acts 8:36; Hebrews 4:15

Luke 1:37

References God: Luke 18:27; Jeremiah 32:17; 32:27; Matthew 19:26; Mark 10:27. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 18:14; Numbers 11:23; Job 13:2; Zechariah 8:6; Philippians 3:21

Luke 1:38 **References Lord:** Psalms 116:16. **Word:** Psalms 119:38

Luke 1:39 **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:65

Luke 1:41

Holy: Luke 1:15; 1:67; Acts 2:4; 4:8; 6:3; 7:55. **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:44; Genesis 25:22; Psalms 22:10. **Spirit:** Revelation 1:10

Luke 1:42 **Blessing:** Luke 1:28; 1:48; 19:38; Genesis 22:18; Judges 5:24; Psalms 21:6

Luke 1:43 **References Lord:** Luke 2:11; 1 Samuel 25:41; Psalms 110:1; John 20:28. **Parallel theme:** Philippians 2:3

Luke 1:45 **Faith:** Luke 1:20; 2 Chronicles 20:20; John 11:40; 20:29

Luke 1:46 **References Lord:** Psalms 35:9; Isaiah 45:25; 61:10; Romans 5:11; 1 Corinthians 1:31; Philippians 4:4. **Parallel theme:** 2 Corinthians 2:14; Philippians 3:3; 1 Peter 1:8

Luke 1:47 **Salvation:** Luke 2:11; Psalms 35:9; Habakkuk 3:18; 1 Timothy 1:1; 2:3; Titus 2:10; 2:13; Jude 1:25

Luke 1:48 **Parallel theme:** 1 Samuel 1:11; 2:8; Psalms 136:23; 138:6; Isaiah 66:2. **Blessing:** Luke 1:28; 1:42; 11:27; Genesis 30:13; Malachi 3:12

Luke 1:49 **Holy:** Exodus 15:11; 1 Samuel 2:2; Psalms 99:3; 99:9; 111:9; Isaiah 57:15; Revelation 15:4. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 17:1; Jeremiah 10:6; Ephesians 3:20

Luke 1:50

Grace: Exodus 20:6; Psalms 103:11; 118:4; 147:11. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 17:7; Psalms 31:19; 85:9; 115:13; 145:19; Revelation 19:5

Luke 1:51

Parallel theme: Genesis 6:5; Psalms 89:10; 98:1; 118:15; Isaiah 40:10; 51:9; 52:10; 63:12; Daniel 4:37; Romans 1:21

Luke 1:52 **Parallel theme:** Luke 18:14; 1 Samuel 2:4; Ecclesiastes 4:14; Ezekiel 17:24; Amos 9:11; Mark 6:3; James 4:10

Luke 1:53 **Parallel theme:** Luke 6:21; 6:24; 1 Samuel 2:5; Psalms 146:7; Ezekiel 34:29; Matthew 5:6; John 6:35; 1 Corinthians 1:26; 4:8. **Good:** Psalms 34:10

Luke 1:54 **Grace:** Psalms 98:3; Jeremiah 31:20; Micah 7:20. **References Israel:** Isaiah 44:21

Luke 1:55 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 12:3; 17:19; 22:18; 26:4

Luke 1:58

Parallel theme: Luke 1:14; Romans 12:15; 1 Corinthians 12:26. **References Lord:** Luke 1:25; Psalms 113:9

Luke 1:59 **Parallel theme:** Luke 2:21; Genesis 17:12; Leviticus 12:3; Philippians 3:5

Luke 1:60 **References John:** Luke 1:13. **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 12:25; Isaiah 8:3

Luke 1:62 **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:22

Luke 1:63 **References John:** Luke 1:13; 1:60. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 30:8

Luke 1:64 **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:20; Jeremiah 1:9; Ezekiel 33:22; Matthew 9:33. **Resurrection:** Psalms 51:15; Isaiah 12:1. **References God:** Ezekiel 3:27

Luke 1:65 **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:39; 7:16; Acts 2:43; 5:5; 5:11

Luke 1:66 **References Lord:** Genesis 39:2; Acts 11:21. **Parallel theme:** Luke 2:19; 2:51

Luke 1:67 **Spirit:** Joel 2:28. **Holy:** Luke 1:15; 1:41

Luke 1:68 **Blessing:** 1 Kings 1:48; 1 Chronicles 29:20; Psalms 41:13; 106:48; Ephesians 1:3. **References God:** Luke 7:16. **Redemption:** Luke 2:38; Psalms 111:9; Ephesians 1:7. **References Lord:** Exodus 4:31

Luke 1:69 **Salvation:** 1 Samuel 2:1; 2 Samuel 22:3; Psalms 18:2. **Parallel theme:** 1 Samuel 2:10; Psalms 89:17; Ezekiel 29:21. **References David:** Psalms 89:3; Mark 11:10; Revelation 22:16. **Resurrection:** Amos 9:11

Luke 1:70 **Holy:** Acts 28:25; Romans 1:2; 2 Peter 1:21

Luke 1:71 **Salvation:** Deuteronomy 33:29; Psalms 106:10; Jeremiah 23:6. **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:74; Jeremiah 32:37; Ezekiel 34:25; 34:28

Luke 1:72 **Covenant:** Leviticus 26:42; Psalms 106:45; Ezekiel 16:60. **Grace:** Micah 7:20. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 26:4; 28:14; Romans 11:28

Luke 1:73 **References Abraham:** Psalms 105:9. **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 7:8; 7:12; Jeremiah 11:5

Luke 1:74 **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:71; Isaiah 45:17; Romans 8:15; 2 Timothy 1:7; Hebrews 2:15; 9:14; Revelation 2:10

Luke 1:75

Righteousness: Ephesians 4:24. **Parallel theme:** Ephesians 2:10. **Holy:** Ephesians 1:4; 1 Thessalonians 4:7; 2 Timothy 1:9

Luke 1:76 **References Lord:** Luke 1:32; Malachi 3:1. **Prophecy:** Matthew 3:3; 14:5; Mark 11:32; John 1:23. **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:35; Acts 16:17

Luke 1:77

Salvation: Luke 3:6; Acts 5:31. **Sin:** Luke 3:3; Jeremiah 31:34; John 1:29; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 10:43; Ephesians 1:7. **Parallel theme:** John 1:34

Luke 1:78 **Parallel theme:** Numbers 24:17; Isaiah 11:1; Zechariah 6:12; Malachi 4:2; Ephesians 5:14; Philippians 2:1; 2 Peter 1:19; Revelation 22:16. **References God:** Colossians 3:12; 1 John 3:17

Luke 1:79 **Light:** Isaiah 9:2; Matthew 4:16; John 8:12; 9:5; 12:46; Acts 26:18; Ephesians 5:8. **Darkness:** Psalms 107:10; 107:14; Isaiah 42:7

Luke 1:80 **Spirit:** Luke 2:40. **Parallel theme:** Luke 2:52; Matthew 3:1. **References Israel:** John 1:31