

MAY 5

Elizabeth ~ Hebrew name meaning “My God is an Oath”

Luke 1

Prospering from Faith

By Sista I'yonna Smith

“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” (Luke 1:13).

Have you ever been told something so unbelievable that you couldn't believe it until you saw it?

That's what it was like for Zechariah when he found out from an angel that he and his wife Elizabeth would have a child. He couldn't believe that in their old age they could still have children. Nevertheless, Elizabeth was able to get pregnant shortly after Zechariah returned from the temple. She was extremely grateful to God and gave Him all credit. ***Luke 1:24-25 KJV reads, “And after those days his wife Elisabeth conceived, and hid herself five months, saying, thus hath the Lord dealt with me in the days wherein he looked on me, to take away my reproach among men.”*** Elizabeth was not only faithful, but also very happy to be able to carry a baby for God because she knew that He was doing a good thing for her and her people.

Elizabeth exemplifies the meaning of her name, “My God is an Oath” with her hope and trust in Him. Because of that faith, God knew that Elizabeth and Zechariah could raise John to be a good man who could carry out his mission. John became a baptizer who baptized many people, including Jesus himself. He also spread the gospel and shared the good news of Jesus Christ. God was able to reach many more people because of John's dedication and Elizabeth's faith. Had Elizabeth turned away from God, John may have never been born and done everything he did, including baptizing Jesus.

We can all learn to have a dedicated faith like Elizabeth. It is not a burden to be chosen, but a gift and a sign that God believes you to be capable of helping him in some way, even if you can't see it immediately. There is no limit to his abilities, so you just have to trust, like Elizabeth, that he has your best interests in mind.

Let's pray: Heavenly Father, please guide us to follow your path always. Let us not doubt or question you, but instead trust and act in accordance with your plans. Please let our loyalty never fail or falter.

Amen.

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above....James 1:17