

JESUS, THE RISING SUN

(The Song of Zechariah)

Luke 1:57-80

Key Verses: 1:78,79 "...because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace."

1. What did it mean to Zechariah and Elizabeth to have a son? What did this old couple reveal about their faith when they named him John? How is obedience tied to faith?
2. Read verses 67-80. Who is the main subject of this song? How has God revealed his faithfulness? (68,70,72) What does it mean that he "has come"? How did he redeem his people?
3. What does he mean by calling Jesus "the horn of salvation"? For the meaning of "horn" see: Dt 33:17a; Ps 148:14; 1Sa 2:1,10; 2Sa 22:3; Rev 5:6. What is the other kind of horn? (Da 7:21; Rev 12:3,9; 13:1) How does it damage people? (Ro 1:29-31)
4. Who is our enemy? For what purpose does God rescue us from the horn of Satan? (74,75) What does this mean? (2Pe 1:3,4)
5. How would Zechariah's son serve God's history? (76,77) Why does he call Jesus the rising sun? (See Jn 8:12b) What can we learn from this song about how to be truly happy?