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Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

The Oaks Baptist Church
Grand Prairie, Texas

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:
Those who put their trust in Jesus will have eternal life

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:
Thank You, Father, for the story You told in Your Word of the people of Israel. It reminds us to be grateful for what You have done for us. Thank You for loving us so much You sent us Jesus.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:
"I have loved you," says the Lord. "Yet you say, 'In what way have You loved us?' Was not Esau Jacob's brother?" Says the Lord. "Yet Jacob I have loved" (Mal 1:2 NKJV)

(from "Our Daily Bread", Apr 28, 2016)

Series: Creation & Salvation

UNIT: The Savior is Born

NEXT WEEK

The Affirmation of the Promise
(Luke 1:39-56)

The Promise of a Savior Luke 1:26-38

Aim and Application of the Lesson

The lesson teaches us how Jesus fulfilled the **The Promise of a Savior**. The **study's aim** is to see that God makes and fulfills His promises and to realize how completely trustworthy they are. The **study's application** is to trust every word from God even when we do not understand how or when it will be fulfilled and to rest confidently in God's promise as the basis of our security in life.

(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)

Lesson Introduction and Background

In biblical times the name given to a child was very important. Names were often laden with significance. Today's parents are likely to name a child based on personal preference, sometimes just because they find it superficially appealing. There may be some family meaning perhaps, or some other intended significance, but the import does not run as deep. In Bible days the name spoke of character and sometimes even had prophetic significance. This was certainly the case when the Lord Jesus was given His name—a name that, as the song says, is the "sweetest name on earth" ("Oh, How I Love Jesus," Whitfield). This week's text brings this home to us. In the prophecy of the visiting angel, the promise of the birth of the long-expected Saviour came to Mary. The context here is both miraculous and amazing. It is hard to fathom the profundity of the virgin birth of our Lord. There were astonishing prophecies made in conjunction with the Lord's birth, an example of which is Luke 1:32-33. Christ's greatness, uniqueness, deity, sovereignty, and Lordship are all conveyed. Clearly no other such person has ever been or ever will be born. The glory of the Lord Jesus is seen in the name He was given, which is at the heart of this week's text. Interestingly, His parents did not choose the name; rather, the Angel Gabriel announced what it would be. It most certainly came from God Himself. Mary learned from the angel that she would conceive and bring forth a son, but she did not get to pick His name. The name of the Messiah had its roots in the Old Testament. The original Hebrew term is a term that refers to God being deliverance or salvation. The term is used often in the Old Testament. The Lord Jesus' name announces that He brings the promise of salvation to mankind. Jesus was meant to be a deliverer, a rescuer, a savior. That is why He was given this name. Every man, woman, boy, and girl across the earth must turn to this one Saviour in order to receive the gift of eternal life. We should realize that the Lord's name in the Hebrew language was the name Joshua. It was a common name at the time of the Lord's birth. But in the New Testament, the Lord is always distinguished from any other Joshua. He is Jesus, the unique and only Son of God, the Saviour of the world. We see Jesus' name in Scripture associated with titles like Christ and Messiah. He was the Lord Jesus, the Anointed One prophesied for centuries. He is the only hope of the world. It is important to remember that the deliverance the Lord Jesus brings is primarily a spiritual deliverance. Matthew 1:21 makes clear that the Lord came so that sinners could be forgiven before God. Christmas is about Jesus. Jesus provides the forgiveness of sins. The peace, love, joy, and hope of Christmas are found in Him, the unique and only Son of God. He is the one who saves us.

(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

Promise of a Savior through a Chosen Vessel (Luke 1:26-29)

Being Chosen

Christians are chosen to be a royal priesthood belonging to God (1 Peter 2:9)

God chooses His people out of the world and now we belong to Him (John 15:19)

God chooses His people as a people for Himself (Acts 15:14)

Those God chooses, He also justified and will glorify (Rom 8:30)

God chooses His people to be holy and blameless (Eph 1:4)

God chooses His people through His grace and for His purpose (2 Tim 1:9)

God chooses His people through His foreknowledge and the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit (1 Peter 1:1-2)

Promise of a Savior through a Prepared Vessel (Luke 1:30-33)

Prepared by not being afraid

Fear God, not man, because God can destroy the body and soul (Matt 10:28)

Don't fear, be ready to die if necessary and pray for God's will to be done (Acts 21:13-14)

Don't fear or worry but keep the faith (2 Tim 4:6-8)

Don't fear, just be faithful and the reward is the crown of life (Rev 2:10)

Don't fear, trust God (John 14:1)

Prepared when called

Called to do good works (2 Tim 2:20-21)

Called to give an answer for hope in God (1 Peter 3:15)

Prepared when called because no one knows when Jesus will return (Matt 24:44)

Prepared when called because the end time is nearer than we think (Rom 13:11-12)

Prepared when called because the day of the Lord is coming (2 Peter 3:11-13)

Prepared for eternity

Prepared for eternity in a kingdom that cannot be shaken (Heb 12:28)

Prepared for eternity in God's eternal glory (1 Peter 5:10)

Prepared for eternity in Jesus (Col 2:6-7)

Prepared for eternity by remaining in Jesus (John 15:5-7)

Prepared for eternity by focusing on the godly unseen (2 Cor 4:17-18)

Promise of a Savior through a Willing Vessel (Luke 1:34-38)

Willing despite understanding

Willing despite understanding through belief (1 Cor 1:18-21)

Willing despite understanding through the power of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 2:3-7)

Willing despite understanding because human understanding is foolishness in God's sight (1 Cor 3:18-19)

Willing despite understanding because true wisdom and understanding comes from God (Eph 1:6-9)

Willingness enabled by the Holy Spirit

Enablement that is glorious (2 Cor 3:7-11)

Enablement that is at work in us (Gal 2:8)

Enablement that comes from the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 2:4-5)

Enablement that is part of the kingdom of God (1 Cor 4:20)

Divine enablement (2 Cor 10:3-6)

Enablement that strengthens the inner being (Eph 3:16)

Enablement of the gospel (1 Thess 1:5)

Enablement that keeps one from being ashamed to testify about God (2 Tim 1:8)

Willing to trust God

Trust God because God never forsakes those who seek Him (Ps 9:10)

Trust God because He is our God (Ps 31:14-15)

Trust God so that God will make us righteous and just (Ps 37:5-6)

Trust God so that we will not be afraid (Ps 56:4)

Trust God because no one else can save us (Ps 146:3-6)

Trust God because He guides us in the straight ways (Prov 3:5-6)

Trust God so that we can be overflowed with hope (Rom 15:13)

Willing to be used

Willing to be used by first giving ourselves to God (2 Cor 8:5)

Willing to be used by submitting to God (2 Chron 30:8)

Willing to be used by offering ourselves to God as an instrument of righteousness (Rom 6:13)

Willing to be used by living for the Lord because we belong to Him (Rom 14:8)

Willing to be used by honoring God with our body (1 Cor 6:19-20)