

THE THREE WISE WOMEN OF CHRISTMAS

THREE Wise Choices That Will Bless the Rest of Your Life

Rick Warren

December 14-15, 2019

1st WISE WOMAN OF CHRISTMAS: _____

“When Herod was king of Judah there was a priest named Zechariah...and his wife was named Elizabeth. Both Zechariah and Elizabeth were righteous and godly people. Their lives pleased God because they always did everything God commanded and they lived with a clear conscience before God. BUT THEY HAD NO CHILDREN, because Elizabeth had been unable to conceive and now, they were both too old.” Luke 1:5-7

Elizabeth’s Story: The Miraculous Birth of John the Baptist
Luke 1:5-25, 56-66

- *“Your persistent prayers have been heard.” vs. 13*
- *“Every word I’ve told you will happen at just the right time.” vs. 20*

“Some time later, Elizabeth became pregnant and for five months she never left her house. But she kept praising God saying ‘The Lord did this for me! He has shown his blessing and taken away my shame and pain.’” Luke 1:24-25

ELIZABETH WAS BLESSED BECAUSE SHE CHOSE:

2nd WISE WOMAN OF CHRISTMAS: _____

“In the 6th month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a young virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph. The girl’s name was Mary. The angel said, ‘Greetings! God has chosen you for a SPECIAL BLESSING and he is with you!’ Mary was frightened and confused and tried to figure out what this greeting might mean. So the angel said to her, ‘Don’t be frightened Mary, for God has decided to bless you in a wonderful way!’” Luke 1:26-29

Mary’s Story: The Miraculous Virgin Birth of Jesus
Luke 1:26-56

- *“Mary was frightened and confused.” vs. 29*
- *“Nothing is impossible with God.” vs. 37*

- *“I am the Lord’s servant and I accept his plans for me. Let it happen according to your word.” vs. 38*
- *Elizabeth to Mary: “God has blessed you because you believed that God would keep his word.” vs. 45*

MARY WAS BLESSED BECAUSE SHE CHOSE:

3rd WISE WOMAN OF CHRISTMAS: _____

“After the birth of Jesus Joseph and Mary took the baby to the Temple in Jerusalem to dedicate him to God, because the law that God gave Moses said ‘Every first born boy is to be dedicated back to God.’” Luke 2:22-23

“That day there was also a woman named Anna worshipping in the Temple courts. Anna was a prophetess and she was very old. She’d been a widow most of her life because her husband had died after being married only 7 years. Anna was now 84 years old and since she had no family, she never left the Temple courtyards. She stayed there day and night, worshiping God with prayers and fasting. Just as Simeon was dedicating the baby to God, Anna walked by and she paused to listen. Then Anna joined in praying for the baby and she thanked God for sending a Savior. FROM THEN ON ANNA TALKED ABOUT JESUS TO EVERYONE who was looking for redemption and freedom in Jerusalem.” Luke 2:36-38

ANNA WAS BLESSED BECAUSE SHE CHOSE:

NEXT TIME WILL BE DIFFERENT!

Rick Warren
Christmas 2019

Jesus: "I am going to heaven to prepare a place for you. And after I prepare a place for you, I WILL COME BACK to get you, so that where I am, you will also be with me!" John 14:2-3

DIFFERENCES

1. THE FIRST TIME: JESUS' ARRIVAL _____

NEXT TIME: JESUS' ARRIVAL _____

"It will all happen in a flash, as fast as the twinkling of an eye."
1 Corinthians 15:52

"The day of the Lord will come unexpectedly, like a thief in the night."
1 Thessalonians 5:2

2. THE FIRST TIME: JESUS' ARRIVAL _____

NEXT TIME: _____
"For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with LOUD COMMAND, and with the SHOUT of the archangel, and with the GREAT SOUND of the trumpet of God!" 1 Thessalonians 4:16

3. THE FIRST TIME: _____

NEXT TIME: JESUS WILL _____
JESUS: "For just as lightning flashes light up the ENTIRE SKY and EVERYONE can see it, so will be the return of the Son of God!"
Matthew 24:27

JESUS: "When I come back in ALL my glory, ALL the holy angels will be with me!" Matthew 25:31

4. THE FIRST TIME: _____

NEXT TIME: _____
"As surely as I am the living God, EVERYONE will kneel before me, and EVERYONE will confess that I am God!" Romans 14:11

5. THE FIRST TIME: JESUS CAME _____

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life! God did NOT send his Son into the world to condemn it, but to save it!" John 3:16-17 (NLT)

NEXT TIME: HE'S COMING _____

"God has set a day when the entire human race will be judged WITH JUSTICE and everything set right. And God has already appointed the Judge, confirming him before everyone by raising him from the dead."
Acts 17:31 (MSG)

"God will reward or punish every person for what that person has done. For those who have lived for God's glory and honor... God will reward them with life forever. But for those who continue to live for themselves and reject the truth, and follow evil instead of obeying God...they will receive God's anger and punishment." Romans 2:6-8

6. THE FIRST TIME: JESUS CAME _____

"God's unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his OWN FAMILY by sending Jesus Christ to die for us." Ephesians 1:5 (LB)

NEXT TIME: HE'S COMING _____

"He will send his angels all around the earth, and they will gather his chosen people from every part of the world." Matthew 24:31 (NCV)

"God's family is the Church of the living God." 1 Timothy 3:15 (NCV)

7. THE FIRST TIME: HE CAME _____

"Though he was God...he made himself nothing, taking on the humble position of a servant and becoming a human! And while living as a man he humbled himself even further by obediently dying on a cross!"
Philippians 2:6-8 (NLT)

NEXT TIME: _____

"Because he humbled himself, God has exalted Jesus to the highest place and given him the name that is above every other name so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God!"
Philippians 2:9-11 (NLT)

HOW DO I GET READY?

"GOD'S GRACE shows us how to say 'No!' to the godless, self-centered, and self-destructive ways the world lives. Instead, God's grace empowers us to live a wise, self-controlled, and God-honoring life while we look forward with great hope for the coming of our God and Savior Jesus Christ when his great glory will be revealed to all!" Titus 2:12-13

“The Lord isn’t being slow in keeping his promise to return. Instead he is being patient FOR YOUR SAKE. He does not want anyone to perish, so he is giving more time for everyone to repent.” 2 Peter 3:9

GOD'S GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT TO YOU!

Rick Warren
Christmas Day Fireside Message 2019

JOHN 3:16 - THE GREATEST VERSE IN THE BIBLE

**"For God so loved the world
that HE GAVE his Only begotten Son,
that whosoever believes in him should not Perish
but have Everlasting Life." (KJV)**

1. THE GREATEST _____

"God SO loved the world..."

"Long before he laid down earth's foundations, God had us in mind, and settled on us as the focus of his love." Ephesians 1:4 (MSG)

"The Lord is good to everyone. He shows compassion on all his creation." Psalm 145:9-10 (NLT)

"Nothing in all creation is able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus." Romans 8:39 (NIV)

"May you be able to feel and understand... how long, how wide, how deep, and how high God's love really is and experience this love for yourselves..." Ephesians 3:18-19 (LB)

2. THE GREATEST _____

"...that he GAVE his only begotten Son..."

"Christ is the visible image of the invisible God." Colossians 1:15 (NLT)

Jesus: "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father." John 14:9 (NLT)

"God put his love on the line for us by offering his Son in sacrificial death while we were of no use whatever to him." Romans 5:8 (NIV)

"When Jesus served as a sacrifice for our sins, he solved the sin problem for good—not only ours, but the whole world's." John 2:2 (MSG)

"God took the sinless Christ and poured into him our sins. Then, in exchange, he poured God's goodness into us." 2 Corinthians 5:21 (LB)

3. THE GREATEST _____

"that WHOEVER BELIEVES in him should NOT perish"

"The free gift of eternal salvation is offered to everyone." Titus 2:11 (LB)

"It makes no difference who you are or where you're from—if you want God and are ready to do as he says, the door is open." Acts 10:35 (MSG)

"If you CONFESS with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord', and BELIEVE in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."
Romans 10:9 (NIV)

"I did not come to judge the world, but to save it." John 12: 47 (NIV)

4. THE GREATEST _____

"but have EVERLASTING LIFE!"

"Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we've been given a brand-new life and have everything to live for, including a future in heaven, and the future STARTS NOW!" 1 Peter 1:3-4 (MSG)

"God's unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ." Ephesians 1:5 (NLT)

"Right now God is ready to welcome you. Today he is ready to save you!"
2 Corinthians 6:2 (LB)