

LESSON 97

Egermeier's Story:

Page 355 – An Angel Visits the Temple

Memory Verse: James 5:16b "...The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much." NASB

Scripture: Luke 1:5-23

Teaching Resource:

New Testament Overview Section 2 Birth of Jesus

Bible Study Guide for All Ages Lesson 22

Prophetic Bridges: Jesus the Prophesied Messiah by Chester A. McCalley

Object Lesson:

Trevor and Mindy are twins who both love to play baseball. As first graders, they were allowed to play on the same team. This particular summer it rained quite a lot, so the twins would watch the weathercast to see what the chances would be of their next day's game being played. What the twins quickly learned is that the weather report, even though it only tried to predict what would happen 24 hours later, was not very accurate. One Sunday their Sunday School teacher taught about how God predicted the future hundreds of years ahead of time. This is called prophecy. The twins realized God's ability to predict the future in the finest detail was much better than weathermen who rarely predicted the weather accurately just one day into the future.

Doctrinal Emphasis: Sovereignty

Key Theme: *God's prophecies are always fulfilled with absolute accuracy and to the smallest detail.*

Today's story is one example of hundreds that demonstrate the accurate and complete fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies. In Isaiah 40:3, Isaiah the prophet spoke the following prophecy from God: "A voice is calling, 'Clear the way for the LORD in the wilderness; make smooth in the desert a highway for our God.'" The angel Gabriel tells Zacharias his son will turn many of the sons of Israel back toward Yahweh; and in the spirit of Elijah, John the Baptist will prepare the way for Jesus (Luke 1:15-17). The prophecy spoken by Isaiah some 700 years before John the Baptist's birth unfolds in today's story.

