

#### The importance of "time" in Elizabeth's life

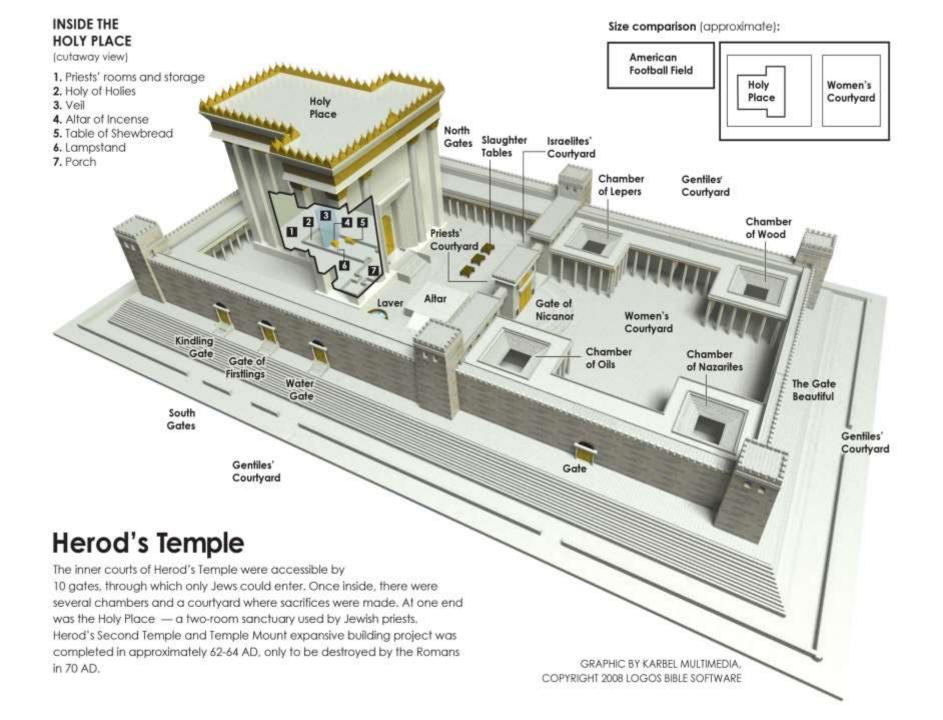
- -In the days of Herod v5
- -they were both advanced in years v7
- -the hour of the incense offering v10
- -my wife is advanced in years v18
- -until the day when these things take place v20
- -shall be fulfilled in their proper time v20
- -the days of his priestly service were ended v23 -after these days Elizabeth his wife became
  - pregnant v24
- -in seclusion five months v24
- -the days when He looked with favor upon me v25



- She is married to a priest and is from a family of priests "daughter of Aaron" v5
- Her name Elizabeth means "promise of God"
- She was "righteous" and "walked blamelessly..." v6
- BUT ... she was "barren" v7
- She and her husband were "advanced in years" 7

- 2. The SETTING for God to work in Elizabeth's life vv8-22 HOPE IS DEMONSTRATED
  - →It involved her husband's ministry









Made of acacia wood with pure gold overlay: 1.5 ft square 3 ft high (Ex.30:1).

> Fragrant incense was burned on the altar every morning and evening (Ex 30:7.8).

> > Placed in the outer sanctuary in front of the mercy seat where the Lord met the high priest (Ex 30:6).

> > > Once a year the high priest would make atonement for the altar by sprinkling some of the blood of the sin offering on the horns because the altar was "most holy to the Lord" (Ex 30:10).

#### Altar of Incense



- 2. The SETTING for God to work in Elizabeth's life vv8-22 HOPE IS DEMONSTRATED
  - $\rightarrow$ It involved her husband's ministry
  - →It included an angel's message



#### Lots of information in the angel's words

- "your wife, Elizabeth" "will bear"
- "a son"
- "give name JOHN"

No substitutes Not maybe; A promise!! A boy; an heir "God is gracious"



- 2. The SETTING for God to work in Elizabeth's life vv8-22 HOPE IS DEMONSTRATED
- 3. The SOLUTION to the prayer of Elizabeth's life vv23-25; 57-66 HOPE IS DELIVERED



- 1. God's time isn't my time but His time is always the right time
- 2. God uses the disappointments and time of waiting to build qualities into our lives that make us more like Jesus
  - →to keep us dependent on Him
  - →to keep us trusting
  - $\rightarrow$ to keep us living by faith not by sight
- 3. God's delays aren't always God's denials



#### God's delays are not always God's denials

- -When we pray a **prayer that is not right**, God will say, "**NO**"
- -When we pray a prayer and we are not right, God will say, "GROW"
- -When we pray a prayer and the timing is not right, God will say, "SLOW"
- -When we pray a prayer and all is right, God will say, "GO"



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- 3. God's delays aren't always God's denials
- 4. You can always trust God's time- Do you?



### <u>IN HIS TIME</u>

In his time, in his time He makes all things beautiful in his time Lord, please show me everyday As you're teaching me your way That you do just what you say In your time.

In your time, in your time You make all things beautiful in your time Lord, my life to you I bring May each song I have to sing Be to you a lovely thing In your time

