



Daily Reflections

June 24, 2017

Scripture

Luke 1: 57-66, 80

When the time arrived for Elizabeth to have her child she gave birth to a son.

Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy toward her, and they rejoiced with her.

When they came on the eighth day to circumcise the child, they were going to call him Zechariah after his father, but his mother said in reply,

"No. He will be called John."

But they answered her,

"There is no one among your relatives who has this name."

So they made signs, asking his father what he wished him to be called.

He asked for a tablet and wrote, "John is his name," and all were amazed.

Immediately his mouth was opened, his tongue freed, and he spoke blessing God.

Then fear came upon all their neighbors, and all these matters were discussed throughout the hill country of Judea.

All who heard these things took them to heart, saying, "What, then, will this child be?"

For surely the hand of the Lord was with him.

The child grew and became strong in spirit,

and he was in the desert until the day
of his manifestation to Israel.

Our Scripture Reflection

"What's in a name?" Juliet asked Romeo. While a name may not have been significant to her, it certainly was to the parents of John the Baptist. That they gave the name John to their baby as the Angel Gabriel had commanded was Luke's way of illustrating that God had broken into human history on behalf of His people. As an adult, John served as a prophet and the one who prepared the way for God's only Son, Jesus. Elizabeth and Zechariah are pictured as humble and obedient servants of The Lord.

Food for your Journey

Walking is falling forward. Each step we take is an arrested plunge, a collapse averted, a disaster braked. In this way, to walk becomes an act of faith. We perform it daily: a two-beat miracle -- an iambic teetering, a holding on and letting go.

--Paul Salopek, "To walk the world," National Geographic, December 2013, 36.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Help me to surrender my will to Your will and to serve You faithfully in this life. Amen.