



# GRACE

REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

SOLI † DEO † GLORIA

## THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Sermon Notes

### The Birth of John the Baptist

### OVERTURNING PRESUMPTIONS

Luke 1:57-66

June 19, 2011

<sup>57</sup>Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. <sup>58</sup>And her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. <sup>59</sup>And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child. And they would have called him Zechariah after his father, <sup>60</sup>but his mother answered, "No; he shall be called John." <sup>61</sup>And they said to her, "None of your relatives is called by this name." <sup>62</sup>And they made signs to his father, inquiring what he wanted him to be called. <sup>63</sup>And he asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And they all wondered. <sup>64</sup>And immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God. <sup>65</sup>And fear came on all their neighbors. And all these things were talked about through all the hill country of Judea, <sup>66</sup>and all who heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, "What then will this child be?" For the hand of the Lord was with him.

#### I. Background

- **Presumption about Children in Old Age**

#### II. God Fulfills His Promise

- **Presumption about God's Promised Messenger**
  - **Verse 57:** John is born
- **Presumption about Barrenness**
  - **Verse 58:** The neighbors and relatives rejoice

### **III. The Child is Set Apart**

- **Presumption of an Appropriate Name**
  - **Verse 59a:** John is circumcised
  - **Verse 59b:** The crowd presumes to name him
  - **Verse 60:** Elizabeth is faithful to God's naming of John
  - **Verse 61:** The crowd protests
  - **Verse 62:** An appeal is made to the father, Zechariah
  - **Verse 63a:** Zechariah is faithful to God's naming as well
  - **Verse 63b:** The crowd is shocked

### **IV. The Lord's Discipline Has Worked**

- **Presumption about a Father's Loving Hand**
  - **Verse 64a:** Zechariah's discipline is complete
  - **Verse 64b:** Zechariah blesses God

### **V. The Lord's Hand is at Work**

- **Presumption is Overturned**
  - **Verse 65a:** The crowds fear God
  - **Verse 65b:** Word spreads
  - **Verse 66b:** God is clearly with John
  - **Verse 66a:** Anticipation is building among the people