



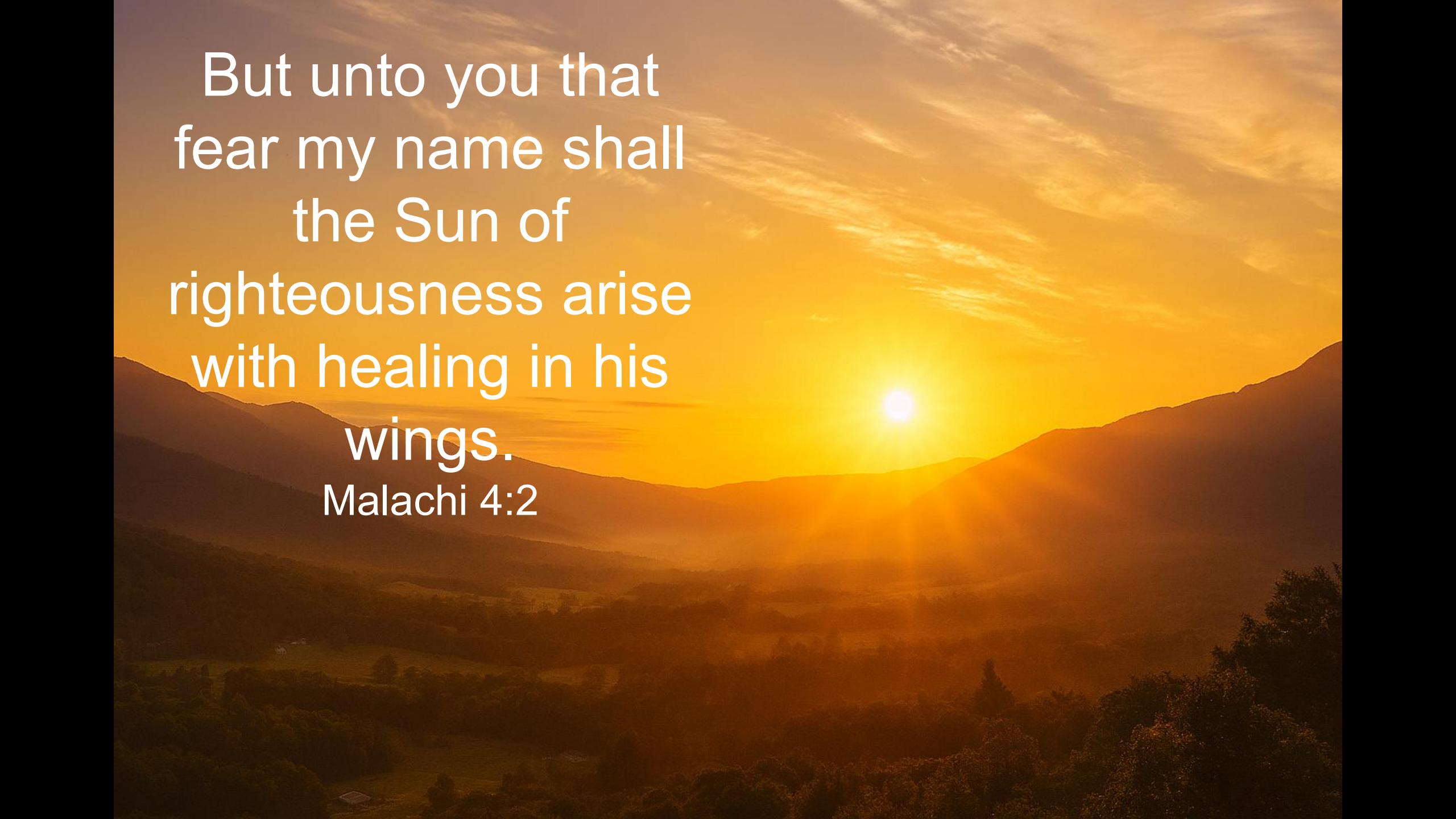
Pleasant Hill
CHRISTIAN
CHURCH

The Song of Zacharias

Luke 1:57-80

“The night had been long and, for Israel, at times very dark. But through it all – through times of national success and disaster, through the conquest and the monarchy, through the exile and return – hope had persisted that the night would end and, as Malachi put it, “the sun of righteousness would arise with healing in his wings.”

David Gooding



But unto you that
fear my name shall
the Sun of
righteousness arise
with healing in his
wings.

Malachi 4:2

The Introduction of Zacharias



There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judæa, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the course of Abia: and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth.

And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. And they had no child, because that Elisabeth was barren, and they both were now well stricken in years.

Luke 1:5-7

And it came to pass, that while he
executed the priest's office before God in
the order of his course,

According to the custom of the priest's
office, his lot was to burn incense when he
went into the temple of the Lord.

Luke 1:8-9



And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense.

And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.

But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.

And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth.

Luke 1:12-14

For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord,
and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink;
and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even
from his mother's womb.

And many of the children of Israel shall he turn
to the Lord their God.

And he shall go before him in the spirit and
power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers
to the children, and the disobedient to the
wisdom of the just; to make ready a people
prepared for the Lord.

Luke 1:15-17

And Zacharias said unto the angel,
Whereby shall I know this? for I am an old
man, and my wife well stricken in years.
And the angel answering said unto him, I
am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of
God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and
to shew thee these glad tidings.

Luke 1:18-19

And, behold, thou shalt be dumb, and not able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not my words, which shall be fulfilled in their season.

And the people waited for Zacharias, and marvelled that he tarried so long in the temple. And when he came out, he could not speak unto them: and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple: for he beckoned unto them, and remained speechless.

Luke 1:20-22

And it came to pass, that, as soon as the days of his ministration were accomplished, he departed to his own house.

And after those days his wife Elisabeth conceived, and hid herself five months, saying,

Thus hath the Lord dealt with me in the days wherein he looked on me, to take away my reproach among men.

Luke 1:23-25

Now Elisabeth's full time came that she should be delivered; and she brought forth a son. And her neighbours and her cousins heard how the Lord had shewed great mercy upon her; and they rejoiced with her.

And it came to pass, that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; and they called him Zacharias, after the name of his father.

And his mother answered and said, Not so; but he shall be called John.

Luke 1:57-60

And they said unto her, There is none of thy kindred that is called by this name.

And they made signs to his father, how he would have him called.

And he asked for a writing table, and wrote, saying, His name is John. And they marvelled all.

And his mouth was opened immediately, and his tongue loosed, and he spake, and praised God.

Luke 1:61-64

And the angel answering
said to him, I am Gabriel,
that stand in the presence of
God; and am sent to speak
to you, and to show you
these glad tidings.

Luke 1:19



The Song of Zacharias

Four Stanzas to this Song



Israel's Salvation

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began: That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us;

Luke 1: 68-71



God's Sovereignty

To perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant;

The oath which he sware to our father Abraham,

That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.

Luke 1: 72-75



Zacharias' Son

And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins,

Luke 1: 76-77



The Savior

Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us, To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1: 78-79



Zacharias means – God remembers

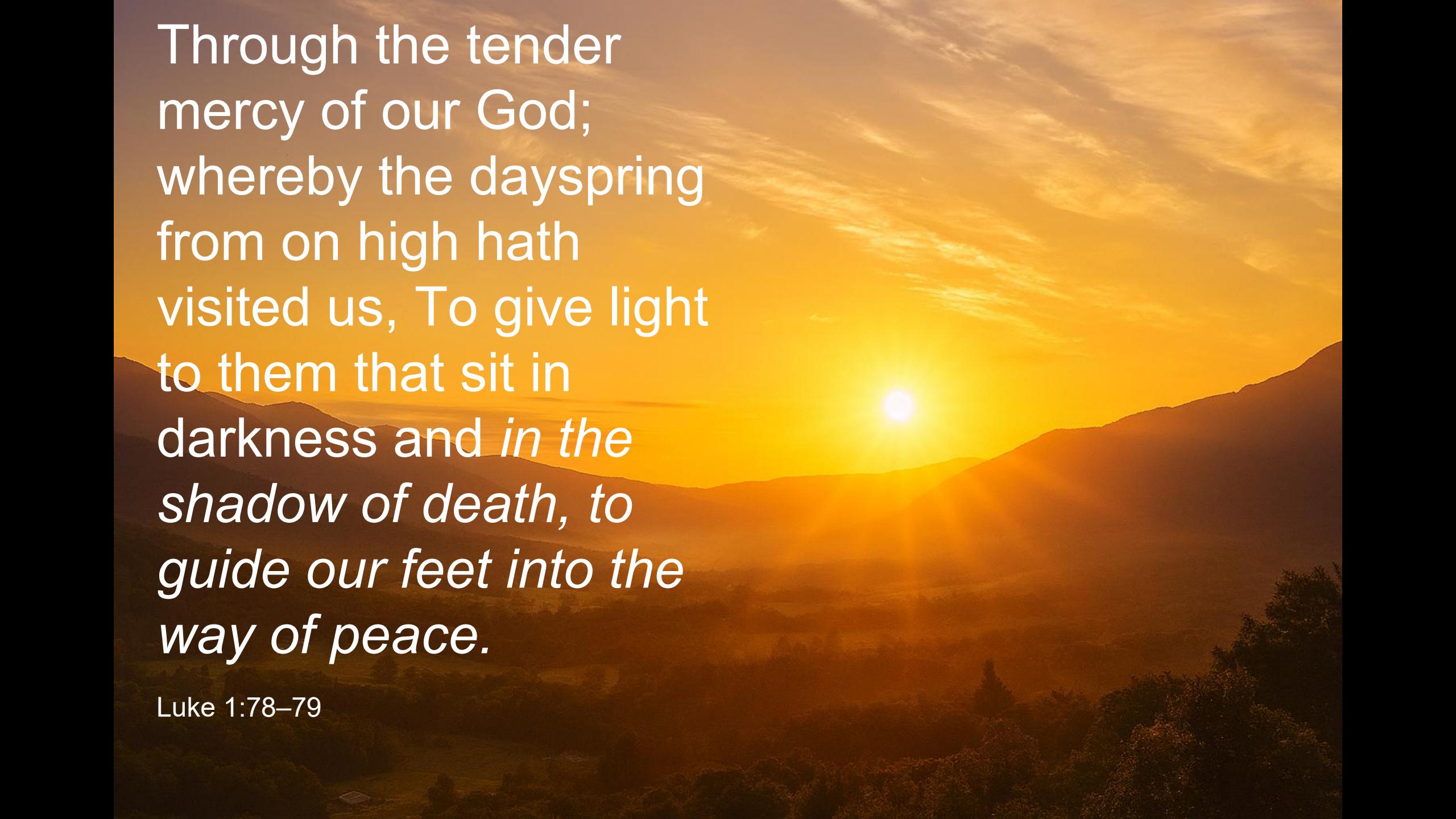
Elizabeth – the promise of God

John – the grace of God

Put them together and you have the story of redemption.

*God remembers . . . His promise . . .
and delivers to mankind . . . His grace*



A scenic sunset or sunrise over rolling hills and mountains, with the sun low on the horizon casting a warm glow over the landscape.

Through the tender
mercy of our God;
whereby the dayspring
from on high hath
visited us, To give light
to them that sit in
darkness and *in the*
shadow of death, to
guide our feet into the
way of peace.

Luke 1:78–79