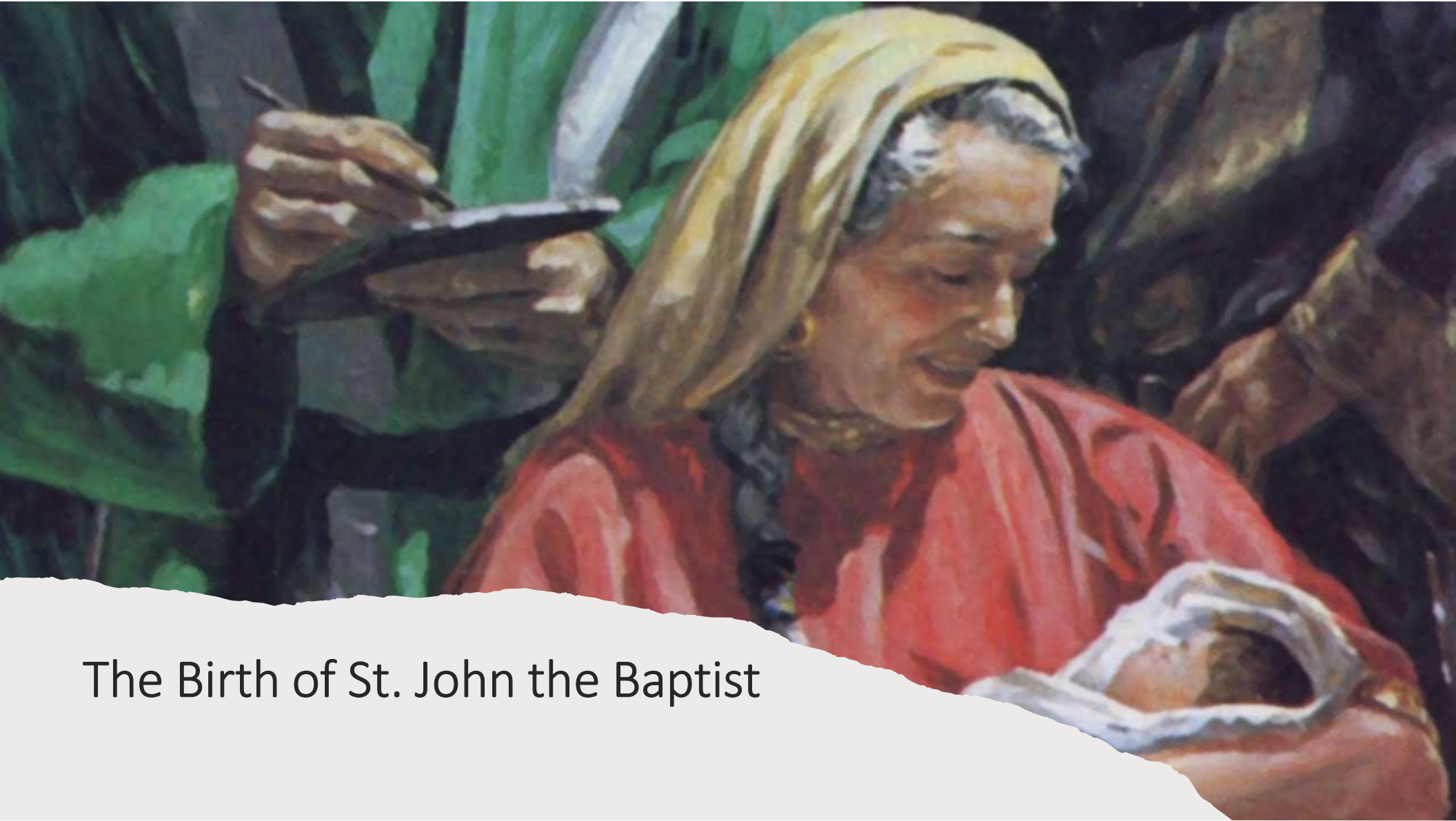




“Now Elizabeth's full time came for her to be delivered, and she brought forth a son.” – Luke 1:57



The Birth of St. John the Baptist



## The Gospel

The gospel of today speaks about the events surrounding the birth of St. John the Baptist.

1. His birth
2. His circumcision
3. The Prophecy of Zacharias





## His birth

- “When her neighbors and relatives heard how the Lord had shown great mercy to her, they rejoiced with her.” (Lk. 1:58)
- Sometimes we find it difficult to rejoice with others
- EX: Saul was jealous of David
  - “Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands.” (1 Sam. 18:7)



## His circumcision

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- Circumcisions were performed on the 8th day of life
- This was when a child was given their name
- How do we choose names?
- In mid-east biblical times, names were carefully chosen, carried meaning, and were significant.
- EX: Hosea and Gomer
  - Jezereel
  - Lo-Ruhamah = “not pittied”
  - Lo-Ammi = “not my people”



## Prophecy of Zacharias

- “Blessed is the Lord God of Israel...” (Lk. 1:68)
- Zacharias was filled with joy
  - Regarding the coming of the Messiah
    - “And has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David...” (Lk. 1:69)
  - Regarding his son John
    - He will be the one who will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His way – to prepare others to come to God

# Summary

- The three events surrounding the birth of St. John the Baptist
- His birth
  - Can I rejoice with others despite me not having what they have?
- Circumcision
  - We were given names at our baptism as a commitment to be consecrated to God
  - Am I living my life with this in mind?
- Prophecy of Zacharias
  - What makes our children great in our eyes?