

the
shake
up







MIX TAPE

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up



The Plan

- Reflect on Zechariah and Elizabeth's original Christmas Shake-up
- Consider how Holy Spirit may use their experience to shake us up

Malachi 4:5-6a

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Malachi 4:5-6a

See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents.



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NO









JOHN





?

OLD!





Why is this story here?

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- To give you confidence that these events actually took place.

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

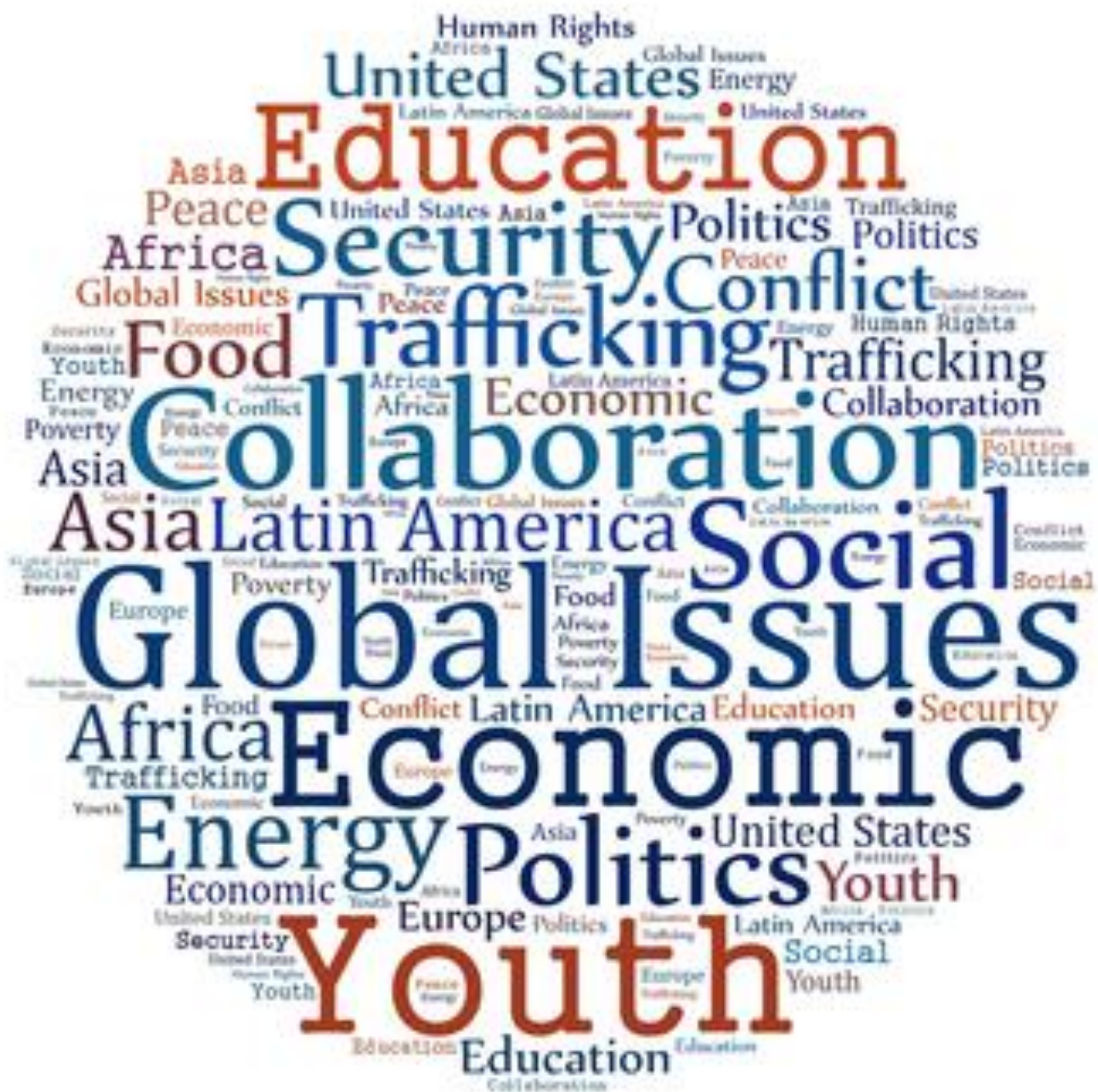
Luke 1:1-4



Why is this story here?

- To give you confidence that these events actually took place.
- To illustrate how God simultaneously achieves his purposes in our world at a macro and micro level.

near or **far ?**





near or **far ?**

near & far !



This story is about much more than Zechariah's joy at having a son at last... It is about the great fulfilment of God's promises and purposes. But the needs, hopes and fears of ordinary people are not forgotten in this larger story, precisely because of who Israel's God is – the God of lavish, self-giving love... When God acts on the large scale, he takes care of smaller human concerns as well.

N.T. Wright

In [the Son] all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

Colossians 1:16-20

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, **let us draw near to God** with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings.

Hebrews 10:19-22

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