

Luke 1:11–12 (NLT)

¹¹ While Zechariah was in the sanctuary, an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the incense altar. ¹² Zechariah was shaken and overwhelmed with fear when he saw him.

Luke 1:13–14 (NLT)

¹³ But the angel said, “Don’t be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer. Your wife, Elizabeth, will give you a son, and you are to name him John.

¹⁴ You will have great joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth,

Luke 1:15–16 (NLT)

¹⁵ for he will be great in the eyes of the Lord. He must never touch wine or other alcoholic drinks. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even before his birth. ¹⁶ And he will turn many Israelites to the Lord their God.

Luke 1:17 (NLT)

¹⁷ He will be a man with the spirit and power of Elijah. He will prepare the people for the coming of the Lord. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and he will cause those who are rebellious to accept the wisdom of the godly.”

Luke 1:18 (NLT)

¹⁸ Zechariah said to the angel, “How can I be sure this will happen? I’m an old man now, and my wife is also well along in years.”

The ANGELS' Role at Christmas

Luke 1:5-38

→ Seeing **IS** Believing

vs.6- ...were **upright in the
sight of God** observing **ALL** the
Lord's **commandments** and
regulations **BLAMELESSLY**

...In this world **you will have trouble.**

But **take heart!**

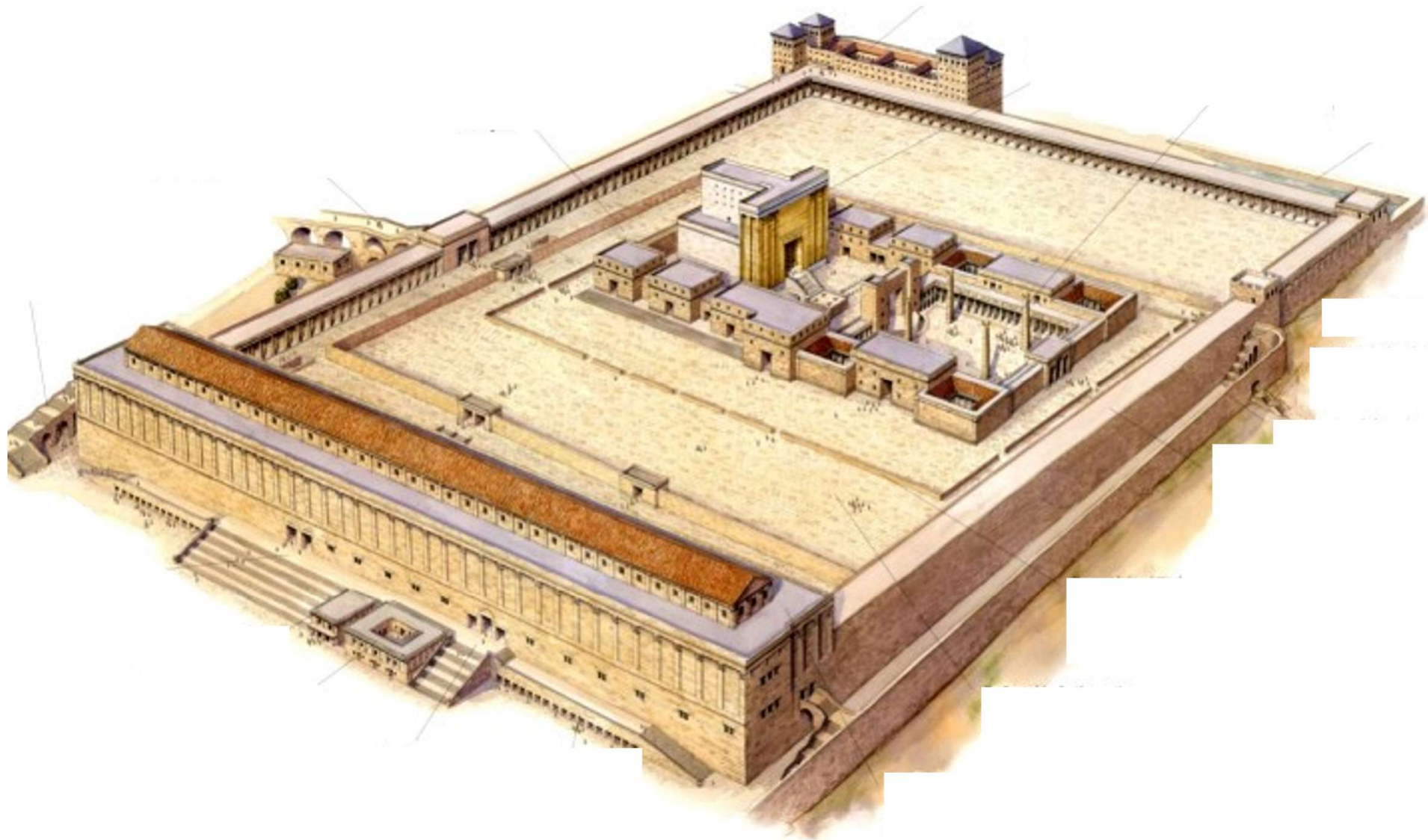
I have OVERCOME the world.

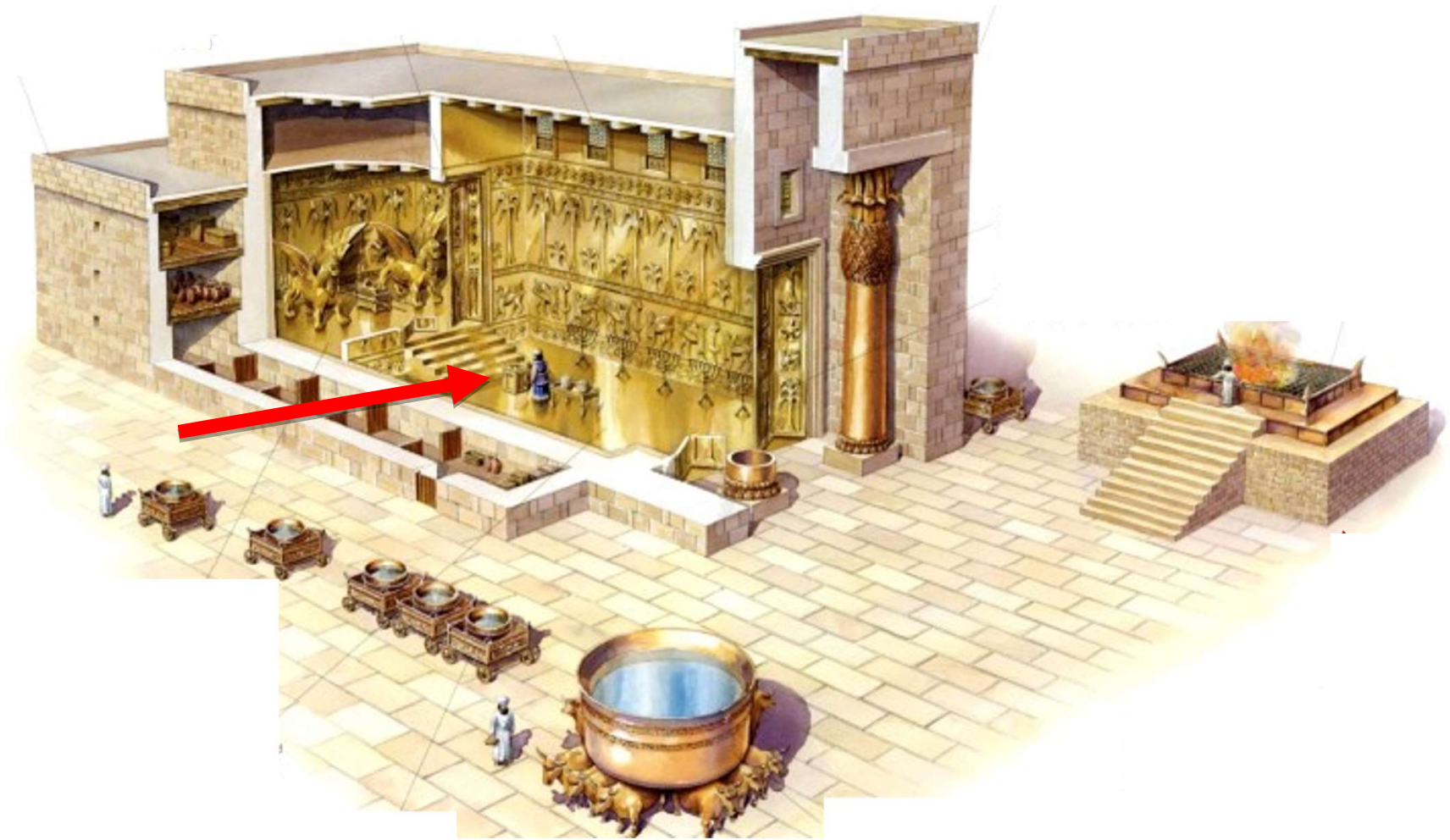
John 16:33 (NIV)

James 1:2-4 (NIV)

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the **testing of your faith develops perseverance.**

Perseverance must finish its work **SO THAT** you may **be mature and complete**, not lacking anything.





The Angel Said - John will... BKC

- be a **JOY** and **DELIGHT**
- be **GREAT** in God's sight
- **NEVER** drink wine or alcohol
- be **FILLED** with Holy Spirit from birth

- **TURN** Israel back to God
- go **BEFORE** the LORD **IN**
the **spirit and POWER** of Elijah
- **PREPARE** people for the LORD

Matthew 11:9-11, 13-14 (NIV)

⁹...what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is **the ONE** about whom it is written: **I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.**

¹¹ I tell you the truth: Among those born of women **there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist...**

...¹³ For **ALL** the Prophets and the Law
prophesied until John.

¹⁴ And if you are willing to accept it,
he IS the Elijah who was to come.

→ **BELIEVING** was Seeing

37 ...**NOTHING** is impossible
with **God**.

Hebrews 11:1 (NLT)

Faith is the confidence that **what we hope for WILL actually happen**; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see.

Hebrews 11:6 (NLT)

...it is impossible to please God

WITHOUT faith. Anyone who wants to come to Him must believe that God exists and that He rewards those who sincerely seek Him.

You believe because you have seen Me.

Blessed are those who **BELIEVE**
without **seeing Me.** John 20:29 (NLT)

1 Peter 1:8 (NLT)

You love Him even though **you have never seen Him**. Though you do not see Him now, **you TRUST Him**; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy...

**1- The things this World VALUES
are all Twisted and Distorted**

2- The fact that the **Shepherds** got the news
First teaches us that **Jesus came**
for ALL Lost people
regardless of **Class** or **Status**

Believing IS Seeing...

- Zacharias believed - **ACTED**
- Mary believed - **SUBMITTED**
- Shepherds believed - **SEARCHED**

²³ ...Everything is possible for him who believes.

²⁴ Immediately the boy's father exclaimed,
I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief.

Mark 9:23-24 (NIV)