

Faith – Elisabeth (Elizabeth)

Responsive Readings for *The Twelve Women of the Chalice* – by Leddy Hammock

Bible references are from the ***New American Bible***; name meanings are from MBD.

Twelve Women of the Chalice: Five women in Matthew's genealogy of Jesus; three women who were blood-related to Jesus or at least one disciple; four women whose names are recorded in scripture and whose statements in His presence or conversations with Him about spirituality are recorded in the Gospels. Every one of these women played a vital role in the Christ ministry.

“God is my oath; God of the seven;” “the soul in the feminine or love consciousness” (relative of Mary of Nazareth, and, therefore, also a blood relative of Jesus; from the line of the daughters of the brother of Moses, Aaron: “illuminated, enlightener;” wife of Zechariah [Zacharias (“whom Jehovah has remembered”), “of the priestly division of Abijah” (“manifest man as being the offspring of the Christ, or Jehovah God – ‘whose father Jehovah is;’ she was also the mother of John the Baptist” (“Jehovah bestows mercifully”) (Luke 1:5-45).

“There was a priest named Zechariah . . . his wife was . . . Elisabeth. Both were righteous in the eyes of God, observing all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blamelessly. But they had no child because Elizabeth was barren and both were advanced in years” (Luke 1:5-7).

Even if I forget God's promises, God remembers me.

“The angel of the Lord appeared [to her husband, saying] ‘Do not be afraid, Zechariah, because your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elisabeth will bear you a son’ Then Zechariah said to the angel, ‘How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years.’ And the angel said to him in reply, ‘I am Gabriel, who stand before God But now you will be speechless and unable to talk because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled at the proper time” (Luke 1:11-20).

Hush, fear. Listen to faith. Hush, ego. Let Spirit speak.

“After this time his wife Elisabeth conceived and she went into seclusion for five months, saying, ‘So has the Lord done for me ...’” (Luke 1:24-5).

Faith perceives in the silence what has not yet been manifest.

“When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting ,... she cried out in a loud voice and said, ‘Most blessed are you And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me: For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believe what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled” (Luke 1:41-5).

**What Spirit promises, I believe.
What I believe, I can conceive.
What I can conceive, I will receive!**