

“The Hymn of Zacharias”

Luke 1:57-80

Pastor John Miller

I. Introduction

- A. The gospel of Luke has been called “the singing gospel.” One of the chief characteristics of a Christian is singing, especially when the Holy Spirit fills our hearts. (Ephesians 5:18-19).
 - 1. Background and setting for the Song of Zacharias (Luke 1:57-67)
 - a) Zacharias sings his Benedictus (Luke 1:68)
 - b) A song of praise to the God who always keeps His promises
 - c) It was the last prophecy of the Old Dispensation and the first of the New Dispensation.
 - d) Illustration- Birds sing at dawn
 - 2. Three reasons Zacharias blesses the Lord God of Israel:

II. He Blesses God for Keeping His Promise to David (Luke 1:68-71)

- A. “In the house of his servant David” (Luke 1:69)
 - 1. Why? Because God made a promise to David
 - 2. It is called “The Davidic Covenant.”
 - 3. 2 Samuel 7
 - 4. “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace, there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this” (Isaiah 9:6-7).
- B. Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of David
 - 1. “He shall be great and shall be called the Son of the Highest, and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David. And he shall reign over the House of Jacob forever and of his kingdom there shall be no end” (Luke 1:32-33).
 - 2. This won’t happen until the Second Coming
- C. At his first coming, He came to:
 - 1. Redeem us from sin (Luke 1:68)
 - a) To set us free by paying a price
 - b) Jesus is our “horn of salvation” (Luke 1:69)
 - c) It is God’s power and strength
 - d) We can’t save or redeem ourselves

2. At the Messiah's Second Coming, He will save Israel and us from our enemies and from the hand of all that hate us (Luke 1:70-71).
 - a) Jesus came to set us free, which gives us something to sing about

III. He Blesses God for Keeping His Promise to Abraham (Luke 1:72-75)

- A. It is called "The Abrahamic Covenant" (Luke 1:72-73)
 1. Genesis 12
 2. Genesis 15
 3. Genesis 22
- B. Jesus came at Christmas to:
 1. Deliver us (Luke 1:74)
 2. Serve Him (Luke 1:74)
 - a) How do we serve Him?
 - b) "Without fear" (Luke 1:74)
 - c) "In holiness and righteousness (Luke 1:75)
 - d) "All the days of our life"

IV. He Blesses God for Making a New Covenant (Luke 1:76-79)

- A. Zacharias starts to sing about his son John and the message and ministry he will have (Luke 1:76)
 1. Breaking the silent 400 years
 2. John was to be the forerunner of Jesus the Messiah (Luke 1:76)
 3. Jesus would make possible God's new covenant, which He promised
 4. "Behold, the days come saith the Lord that I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and with the House of Judah" (Jeremiah 3:31-34).
 - a) God's laws put in our hearts
 - b) We become God's people
 - c) We know the Lord
 - d) God forgives our sins and remembers them no more
- B. Through the birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we have:
 1. The remission of our sins (Luke 1:77)
 - a) "The angel told Joseph, 'And she will have a son, and you will call his name Jesus for He shall save His people from their sins'" (Matthew 1:21).
 - b) John pointed to Jesus and said. "Behold the Lamb of God."
 - c) Jesus came to cancel our debt
 2. The dawning of a new day (Luke 1:78)
 - a) In mercy, God came down to visit us
 3. Light for those who lived in darkness and death (Luke 1:79)
 - a) Jesus came as the "light of the world."
 4. Peace (Luke 1:79)

a) The Angel's Song (Luke 2:13-14)

V. Conclusion

- A. Have your sins been forgiven?
- B. Has His light shone in your heart?
- C. Do you know His peace?