

Intrude (Luke's Epiphany)

Luke 1:67-80

Zechariah's Prophecy

Sunday Class (12/22/24)

Read Luke 1:67-80

What are some of the specific things which Zechariah is celebrating, in verses 68-75?

What's Zechariah celebrating in verses 76-79?

Vs. 68-75 focus on the strong deliverer from the house of David

What do you think Zechariah is referring to with the word "visited" (v. 68)?

What does "redeemed" mean? (v. 68)

The "horn of salvation" (v. 69) is a symbol of divine or human strength and power (horns of ox that can defeat opponents). Read also Deuteronomy 33:17; 2 Samuel 22:1-3.

In what way does this war image accurately apply to the coming Christ?

Zechariah speaks of God having "saved us from our enemies ... all who hate us" (v. 71).

About whom might Zechariah have been thinking?

Do you think Zechariah expected this to happen in physical, military terms? Or in the spiritual terms which Jesus did fulfill?

When Zechariah mentions God remembering "his holy covenant" (v. 72), to what is he referring?

Might he be foreshadowing the New Covenant of which Jesus spoke at the Last Supper?

Read v. 74 again.

What Zechariah seems to long for most is to be delivered from his enemies. Why was that such a longing for this aged Israelite?

What does he say, in second part of v. 74 and v. 75, will be the response of those so delivered? Do you think Zechariah was eager to carry out that response himself?

How does Zechariah describe John's role?

In vs. 78-79, how does Zechariah describe his current condition (and that of his countrymen)?

Zechariah knows that the Messiah is coming. He will be powerful, but he will also be light.

In what way does Jesus bring light to people like you and me? To our world today?

Read v. 80 again. Compare to 2 Samuel 2:26, and Luke 2:52.

Why do you suppose John spent time in the wilderness?