

WEEKLY WORSHIP GUIDE

Luke 1:67-79--November 26th, 2023



Sermon Recap:

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

I. Divine Intervention (v.68)

- God's people are in a posture of anticipation. He has been silent for 400 years while they await the fulfillment of his promises.
- God breaks his silence with divine intervention; sending a child to Zechariah and his barren wife and sending salvation to his spiritually barren people.
- Salvation is always by his sovereign, divine intervention.

II. Divine Power (v.68-69).

- God displays his power in the "horn of salvation."
 - horn = a symbol of strength and power in an animal.
 - Jesus is the horn of salvation.
- God displays his power through the means of human weakness (a baby).

III. Divine Faithfulness (v.69-73)

- Zechariah means "the Lord has remembered" and the name Elizabeth means "oath."
- God is remembering his covenants.
 - Abrahamic Covenant- v.73.
 - Davidic Covenant- v.69

IV. Divine Deliverance (v.74-78)

- Two pillars of salvation: forgiveness and holiness.
 - Forgiveness- our sins are pardoned when we repent.
 - Holiness- we are saved *for* holiness; to be made righteous.
- V.78- Forgiveness of sins and being declared (and made) holy are expressions of God's tender mercy.

V. Divine Light (v.78-79)

- In the garden, in the flood, in the wilderness, in exile, in sin, in legalism; God's people were in darkness.
- But there was always the promise of the coming light.
- Isaiah 9:2- After darkness, light.
- The Messiah came to bring light into the darkness.

The Christmas season can be very distracting and burdensome. Always remember the real reason why we celebrate: the long expected Jesus has come and he will come again.

Discussion Questions:

- What do you find significant about Zechariah's first words after his period of silence?
- Who is the "horn of salvation" about whom Zechariah speaks and how do you know?
- What is significant about the way God's divine power is revealed?
- How do these verses show God's unfolding plan from Old Testament days to the coming of the Messiah?
- According to this passage, what specific promises (covenants) are fulfilled in Jesus?
- According to Zechariah's song, what will Jesus accomplish?
- What do God's tender mercies bring to the lives of those He saves?
- What are we being divinely delivered from?
- What are we being divinely delivered for?
- In Isaiah 9:2 and Luke 1:79, what is the darkness?
- What is the light?

Application:

- What are you most looking forward to this holiday season?
- How do you typically respond to a period of waiting?
- Define the words "redeemed" and "salvation" as you understand them.
- How does God's faithfulness to past promises aid you in this advent season?
- Ponder your own testimony. In what ways have you see the transformation from darkness to light? To what do you attribute this change?
- Spend time in prayer, asking that God Almighty might stoke in you a greater longing and anticipation for Christ this Christmas season.

