



Week 5

Sermon Series: Songs of the Savior

Sermon Title: The Second Song

Sermon Text: Luke 1:57-80

Group Week of: April 23, 2023

Sermon Date: April 30, 2023

The Text: Luke 1:68-79

Scriptures for Additional Daily Studies	
Day 1	Horn of Salvation – Psalm 18:1-50 (v2)
Day 2	Abrahamic Covenant – Genesis 17:1-8
Day 3	Light in Darkness – Isaiah 9:1-7
Day 4	The Sun – Malachi 4:1-5
Day 5	The Word – John 1:1-14

⁶⁸ “Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them.
⁶⁹ He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David
⁷⁰ (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago),
⁷¹ salvation from our enemies
and from the hand of all who hate us—
⁷² to show mercy to our ancestors
and to remember his holy covenant,
⁷³ the oath he swore to our father Abraham:
⁷⁴ to rescue us from the hand of our enemies,
and to enable us to serve him without fear
⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

⁷⁶ And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High;
for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him,
⁷⁷ to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins,
⁷⁸ because of the tender mercy of our God,
by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven
⁷⁹ to shine on those living in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the path of peace.”

Textual Questions

- 1) What is the message that God and Zechariah are speaking through this text?
- 2) What themes do you see in Zechariah’s song?
- 3) From this prophecy, describe what Zechariah believes about Jesus.

Discussion Guide Questions

- 1) Zechariah spent nine months reflecting in silence. From the moment his mouth was opened what flowed out was wonderful praise. When was the last time you dedicated time to silently reflect upon the Lord? Have you allowed the busyness of life to rob you of times of meditation and communion with the Lord? Discuss with your group the tension of a busy life and quiet meditation, and how we need to navigate those waters as Christians today.

- 2) The first thing that Zechariah praises the Lord for is the redemption and salvation of the people of God. Though Jesus hasn't even been born, Zechariah speaks of that redemption as if it is already complete. That is how sure he is! Do you ever struggle to believe with such assurance that you've been redeemed from your sin? Does committing the same sin repeatedly ever cause you to feel that your guilt cannot be cleansed? If you struggle with doubt, what can be done to be as sure of Christ's redemptive work as Zechariah was?

- 3) Although Zechariah spoke of the Messiah delivering Israel from their enemies (and of course Jesus defeated our greatest enemies—sin and death), Jesus did not deliver them from the Romans. Does this mean that Jesus has failed to fulfill this prophecy? Discuss how you can understand Zechariah's prophecy here in light of Jesus' earthly ministry.

- 4) Over these nine months, Zechariah's assurance of God's ability to fulfill His promises is strengthened greatly. He declares that God is going to fulfill His promises by going back all the way to Abraham. Both losing speech and seeing His wife's pregnancy strengthened that faith. Write a story below that you go to to be reminded that God is faithful. Share it with your group.

- 5) John's job, in part, was to give people "the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins." This means that while Zechariah hoped for redemption from enemies, he understood that salvation was also about being saved from sin. What did John do to help people understand that they needed forgiveness from their sins? What can you do to help others understand that they need forgiveness from their sins?

- 6) Read John 1:1-14, and share in your own words below how Jesus is "the light." Where do you need the light of Christ in your life today? Share that need with your group, and spend time seeking the Lord's light wherever darkness has reared its ugly head in your life presently.