

4 Encounter

Encounters people w. names Luke, Theophilus, Eyewitnesses, Ministers of the Word, Zechariah, John Elizabeth and calls for highest ♥ allegiance, ▶

FAITH conversation w. Julian

- ✓ confronts our sin + unbelief vs 18-23
- ✓ covers our shame vs. 24-25

See This Kingdom asks far more than any earthly politician... and gives far, far more. Your ♥?

Wait, missing piece! Kingdom must have a King! ↘

5 King

☞☞ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the LORD **Θ** will give to him the throne of his father David and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever + of his Kingdom there will be no end. "2:31ff

Do you see how faith in this Kingdom/King would change everything?

1. As a citizen of global Kingdom, w. Allegiance to Jesus above all earthly rulers Bishkek
2. As a son/daughter confident in **Θ** your Father, King of Kings, sovereign **WILL**

SCRIPTURE READING (cont)

¹¹And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. ¹³But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. ¹⁴And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, ¹⁵for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. ¹⁶And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, ¹⁷and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."

¹⁸And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." ¹⁹And

the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. ²⁰And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time." ²¹And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple. ²²And when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple. And he kept making signs to them and remained mute. ²³And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

²⁴After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying, ²⁵"Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among people."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS


1. How does the current angst over politics show that even Christians often do not have a clear and functional understanding of God's Kingdom (i.e. we are either too distressed or too hopeful about political outcomes)?
2. Discuss how these five Words from Luke 1:1-33 (Accomplished, History, Holy Spirit, Encounter, and King) shape Christian doctrine and practice of the Kingdom of God.
3. How can these words help you today as you face the nitty gritty of life in this world as a citizen of the Kingdom of God?

3 November 9th political upheaval + angst contrasted with "differentiation" of NT Epistles
How? Difference? conversation w. Julian

Thesis Many X'tians on right/left lack a robust doctrine + practice of Kingdom of Θ . You?

5 WORDS for a doctrine + practice of K of Θ

1 Accomplished

 Accomplished (1:1), Cf. Luke 24:13ff

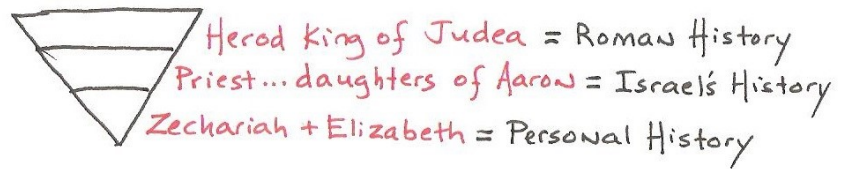
Sovereign Θ is True King who is bringing all things about according to His purpose to fulfill Scripture: Ex "lot" (vs. 9), fulfilled (vs. 20)

All leaders Herod... John the Baptist established by His Sovereign Hand Is. 40:21-24

➔ Xity is Gospel, good news of Θ 's Mighty Acts, Done, not religious advice of what we must Do NATURE of FAITH vs. WORKS

2 History Julian's Discovery


 Eyewitnesses... Ministers of Word... Orderly Account



➔ Kingdom of Θ is breaking into the real world of nations, rulers, politics, work, religion, morality, "reproach" (25), the nitty gritty of your life in this world. BIGGEST of deals the LORD is coming vs. 17

Has the Kingdom reshaped your \heartsuit vs. 17?

3 Holy Spirit

 H.S. filling John... in Jesus' conception (1:15, 35)

► Bible's Story Θ 's SPIRIT moves during the Mighty Works of Θ 's creation, Exodus, Tabernacle, Restoring of Temple

Talk to you w a "closed circle" - either conscious or functional - world view, i.e. ruled out the supernatural. You could have never seen this coming on world stage - hidden, unimportant people, backwater of ~~Empire~~ Empire, etc.

Have intellectual Honesty to own that your position is a leap of faith. Tim Keller

O.K. to struggle, so did Zechariah 18