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SPEAKERS

Baruch Korman, Intro Voice

Intro Voice 00:03

Shalom, and welcome to via after yisrayl A Hebrew phrase which means you shall love Israel. We hope you'll stay with us for the next 30 minutes as our teacher Dr. Baruch shares his expository teaching from the Bible. Dr. Baruch is the senior lecturer at the Zerah Avraham Institute based in Israel. Although all courses are taught in Hebrew at the institute, Dr. Baruch is pleased to share this weekly address in English. To find out more about our work in Israel. Please visit us on the web at love Israel dot o RG That's one word love Israel dot o RG. Now, here's Baroque with today's lesson.

Baruch Korman 00:42

When you hear good news, how do you respond? Well, you should respond with joy, with gladness, and an excitement and a passion wanting to respond to that good news. In faith. The problems is this many times instead of believing what do we do, we doubt now remember what the scripture says. One who doubts ought not to expect anything from God. God moves in a person's life, in their circumstances in their situations, when they believe, not just believe what they want, but to believe God's revelation. Now think of where we are. In our study. A few weeks ago, we began our study of Luke's Gospel. And soon thereafter, early on in that first chapter, we move to the account of a priestly family, a priest, that word priests and Hebrew co hen simply means a servant, someone who has a call upon their life to specifically serve God. Now God was important to this family, we see this that is because they submitted to the authority of God's Word. And they did so in a very good manner. The scripture says both Zaharia and his wife, Elizabeth, they were blameless, before got sensitive to do all the corrections, all the the errors that they made to bring about a repair, to seek atonement to seek God's forgiveness, they were committed. But notice something. Now Zaharia, according to the lot that fell upon him, he went into the holy place to that altar of incense, that related to and we talked about this, that offering up the offering of incense, corresponded with the time that the people were praying, they were making their request or supplications, known to God, and the hurry ahead, a requests, one that he had prayed for for a long time. And that is that he would have a son. So much time had expired. So but the years had, elapse. And it seems as though God was silent. And then in the midst of his service, what happens? The angel of the Lord appears to him. And the angel says, God has heard your prayer, you're going to have a son. Now he should have been so excited. He was told that this boy is going to be unique. He is going to go before Him meaning going before Messiah, he is going to have a dramatic

change upon the people. He is going to serve in the spirit and then the power of Elijah, that great man of God. I mean, what great news. And he should have just said, Yes, Lord. Thank you. I am so grateful that God has heard my prayer and is responding to it. But notice what he said, to get your Bible and look with me to the book of Luke chapter one. And we're ready for now. Verse 18, this is John's, this is the hardest response to the angel. Verse 18. And Zechariah said to the angel, according to what will I know this? Now that is a doubt he's saying, I want proof. Wait a second, an angel of the Lord. In fact, the angel of the Lord is standing before him. He had never witnessed this. This has never happened before. This special Angel of the Lord. And he says here in a faithless response, according to what will I know this, for I am old used to determine elder. I'm an elderly man and my wife is well events in her days, meaning she's not have the time to give birth. What is he doing? finding excuses. This is how most humans are. God says I want to do something in your life. And we want proof. We want it to be made. We want to be understanding what God's gonna do. Well, we can't why so many of the things that God does, It's Supernatural. It goes beyond our human capacity to understand we're supposed to receive it in faith, knowing that a supernatural miraculous God, all things are possible with him. But what does Zechariah do? He wants proof, he doubts and he starts giving the reasons why this can't be. I'm an old man my wife is is advanced, well advanced in years. She's saying this is not going to happen. Well, notice the response. Verse 19,

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the angel, this angel, the Lord, the angel answered and said to him, I am God real. Now this term, Gabriele means the mighty God. It speaks about the God who is strong, the God who is without limitations, God is strong enough for any obstacles. Nothing is difficult with God. And he says, look, again, I m. Gabriele, the one who has stood is standing and will stand. That's the grammatical tense of this Greek word, the one who is standing before God, he means I have a history with God, I have stood before him, meaning I've witnessed things in the past. I'm standing before him now. And I will continue. He say, I know this eternal God, and God's able to do that he is a mighty God, keep reading. More than that, he says, and I had been sent to speak to you, and and we have the word for gospel, to proclaim these glad tidings unto you. He says, God, the One who I stand before, meaning, I'm under the authority of God, I don't speak on my own initiative. I only have sent you what God has told me to tell you. And it is good news. It relates to the gospel. That is God's plan of redemption. And that plan of redemption involves and hear this whenever that word redemption is mentioned. One of the aspects of it is restoration. Restoration means putting things back in the original way, either in that original way, or even an improved way. God is going to restore us to himself, that relationship that that Adam and Eve had in the garden before that fall, that sin, of of partaking of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, God's good to restore that back to something even better. This is God. God when he restores that restoration puts us even into a better situation than was previously in the original. This is the nature of God. He likes to give a double blessing. So all of this is what Gavriel is telling this band Zaharia not to be faithless, but to believe and notice something else. Keep reading. He says in verse 20. And behold, you shall be silent. Now God is going to do something. God is going to show Zaharia his power. Now almost all of his life, he has been able to speak since the time that he was a toddler. He was able to to enunciate words, but things are going to change why? He is going to have a new experience. This one who was able to speak, he is going to be silent. Notice what the scripture says verse 20, and behold, oath, whenever that terms there, behold, pay attention, something significant is going to happen. He says, And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak, until which day that these things are fulfilled.

He says, You are going to be silent, unable to speak, until these things are fulfilled. He's going to show God's authority, God's power, meaning this, God is in control. Now, that is a foundational principle that we need to realize that we need to submit to that we need to live under the authority of the fact that God is in control. Does that mean that everything that happens in this world is God's will? It does not? We're going to talk about in a another message, the sovereignty of God. And we're going to see that God is sovereign. But that does not mean that everything that happens in this world is God's will. There is sin, sin is never God's will. But the point is this. Ultimately, God will bring everything into his will. For those who are redeemed, what is his will, eternal blessing. For those who reject the redemption of God, they're going to receive that eternal curse. So you are either going to be blessed eternally, or cursed eternally. And, and you determine what it's what it's going to be. When you seek God's redemption and understand this, there's only one means of redemption. And that is that gospel message that focuses in on the death, burial, and resurrection of Messiah, as a free gift. It is not by our works that were justified, but it's by faith, believing what God has provided. This is what Luke is going to teach us. But look again, at our texts. It says here, these things are going to be fulfilled in their time. But he says middle verse 20, but because which you did not believe my word. Now, that's literally what he says, because of the fact that you did not believe my words, it says, this is going to be filled, these things are going to be filled in their time. But in the midst of that, until they are, you're going to be silent and unable to speak first 21. Now remember the context where we left off, this angel of the Lord appeared to Zaharia, when he was doing this assignment, that fell to him by lot, lot, usually relates to the will of God, it was God's will. That's why the lot fell upon Zaharia to go into the holy place to be the one offering up this incense offering. When Gabriella, this angel of the Lord appeared to him. And they're having this conversation, as the incense offering has gone up. And by this time, it's long been completed. It's not a long process. Therefore, notice the context look now, diverse 21. It says, And the people were expecting the hilarious, and they marveled at the time he was spending in the sanctuary, that he had been there for so long. And then verse 22, but having come out, he was not able to speak to them. And they recognize what did they recognize that a vision he saw. Now, again, what's so interesting about the original language, is that there's a consistency and consistency here in this text. When we speak about something that has to do with the purpose of God, the plans of God. It's usually in the tense that speaks about something in the past, having a present reality but also a future fulfillment. Why is that? Well, what does it say that that they knew that he had saw a vision and this vision began in the past meaning it had a relevance to Prophetic promises, these prophetic prophetic promises were still enforced at that time. But they were gonna have their fulfillment in the future. So this vision had a connection to the past, it's going on now, but ultimately is going to have its full full mil fulfillment in the past. That's what it means. When it says he saw a vision, he saw that vision with such implications past, present, and future. And then it says, Keep reading, first 22 in the middle.

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And he was making signs to them. And he continued, being a mute. Now, again, the word of God is so wonderful, because when it says he was making signs that he couldn't speak, he became a mute. And it says, he continued to be a mute that is unable to speak. But this word for continuing is in a Greek grammatical construction, known as the imperfect. And whenever the imperfect appears, we should expect a change, meaning this, the imperfect is used to say what is happening now is not good to continue. for an indefinite period of time, we should expect a change, and John is going to be able, excuse me, Zack car Zaharia is going to be able to speak in the future. So that's why it says that he

remained as a mute first 23. And it came about when the days of his service were fulfilled, that he went away into his house. And notice this, but after these days, just as the angel had proclaimed, but after these days, Elizabeth, his wife, conceived, but notice what she did, but she hid herself for five months. Now, everything in the Scripture is important. Notice what's been said, God's faithful, He is working this out, according to the exact revelation that the angel Gabriel sent. He is now mute, unable to speak. Why? Because he doubted the message. Secondly, he completed that assignment, people saw that there was a vision that he had seen that something had happened, that he was unable to speak, he could only make signs. And he went home. And after completing all of this service, when he was at home, God was faithful. His wife, Elizabeth, and remember, we're told two times, she is an old woman, the Scripture says, she is well advanced in days, that is a reference to tell us that her fertility has long cease. She was barren, but in her early years when she could produce a child by Ah, she couldn't. But now that time of fertility had long expired, but what happened? Miraculously, God did something. God took that womb that was dead, in fertile. And he made it fertile. He put life into that which was dead. Don't miss the imagery here. Don't miss why God does things in the way that he does. He is going to create a life out of nothing. This is what God can do. So look once more at the texts. We read in verse 24. But after these things, the the days of these things, Elizabeth, his wife, conceived, and she hid herself for five months. Why five? Five is the number of of incompleteness. She waited until that six month, the fifth month shows lacking. And when she went past that, when it was obvious that she was pregnant, that she was showing that it was sure that this word was was fulfilled in her life. It says that the end of five months, notice what is revealed. This is what happened. She was saying that Thus the Lord has done unto me in these days, what has he done? He has looked And this is an important term he has looked. Why is that so important? Well remember something. We're talking about redemption, God's plan to to bless, and not just bless one family, but that all the families of the earth potentially, could be bliss. And it says, And she speaks, that God has looked, God has saw something. Why is that so important? Because if you look, in a very key passage, in fact, this is a passage that is read every day, I want to say it again. Every morning in the synagogue, we read about the binding of Isaac. And do you remember what it says there? That God looked, and he provided, he provided that which was necessary, so that Isaac would live? Instead of being sacrificed, he provided that that RAM that was caught in the thicket by his horns. And when Elizabeth says, God looked, and what did God do? He saw something lacking. He saw something that was disturbing. And God looked and he responded, and what did he do? We'll keep reading where it says, And he took away my reproach among people, meaning this, here is Elizabeth, this godly woman, sensitive to the things of God walking her and her husband blamelessly. In the the instructions, and the ordinances of God, they were faithful people committed to and when it says the commandments and the ordinances, it's talking about the torah, the torah was important to them, meaning this, God's instruction for righteousness is what they wanted to base their life upon. And they did so blamelessly. And I want to say again, because I get emails in regard to this. People don't understand what the scripture men's means. When it says blamelessly. It doesn't mean that they were without sin. We all have fallen short of the glory of God. The scripture says, no one is righteous, no, not one. There's only one exception to that. And that is Messiah, your show. The Scripture says, even though he was tempted at all points, like all human beings, he never sinned. being tempted, is not a sin. Acting on that temptation is sin. And Messiah never did. He is the perfect, eternal Son of God, He never sinned. So when it says that they walked in the commandments and the ordinances of God righteously doesn't mean that, that the hurry up and Elizabeth were without sin, it means that when they did sin, they utilize the Torah for finding forgiveness, making that

atonement, wanting to find once more God's favor, through that sacrificial system, which was and means to, to to secure forgiveness. That's what it means when it says, blamelessly, they utilize scripture for their spiritual condition.

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And now what do we have? We have this couple that love God so that we're committed to God that walked in his ways, but there was something missing in their life. They had no child. And what would people be saying? Well, what people always do, you know, if you're not being blessed, there must be a problem with you. There must be something that you're doing. And the scripture says that, that when she was was impregnated, when her husband placed seed within her and she conceived a son, what did that do? Well, the Scripture says, that God looked upon me, and he took away the reproach my reproach among men, meaning, the shame the disgrace that I felt, God removed. And this is what redemption does. It removes all those things, in order that the glory of God and the presence of God can be seen within us. This is what he's talking about here. This is what God does. God wants to restore you back to a right relationship, where his glory can be manifested through you. God has the means means to do that nothing's difficult for God. All we have to do is to receive it. That was the problem with Zaharia. He wasn't believing this is this miraculous God, this God that can do all things. Don't doubt God, except his word, realize that his word contains the truth, so that we can find God's Will being realized in our life. But here's the question. Do you really want God's will? Is this what you are praying for? See Zaharia and Elizabeth, they were interested in the things of God, they were praying for the things of God. And when the people were at that time of the incense offering, making their requests and petitions for God, what's foundational? God, would you do that work of restoration? What would you do and bring redemption to us? And God began that process with who, with the birth of Johanna hammock, Bill, meaning, John, the Baptists, that he was going to go before your show. And we're going to see next week, as we continue on in this same section of chapter one, there's going to be the focus upon God's faithfulness concerning Messiah, that we're going to see this relationship through this family of a miraculous birth, a miraculous conception. God does the miraculous in order to bring about his purposes. So let me ask you a question. Do you believe in a miraculous God, a God who is intimately aware of your life, your hurt, your pain, your problems, what you struggle with the sin in your life, and God is offering you an opportunity. God loves you perfectly. He's demonstrated that love and he is willing to bring about restoration to remove just like he did that that shame, that disgrace, that contempt that Elizabeth was feeling. He can remove that from you. But there's only one way and that one way is through the Son of God, Messiah Yeshua. Without him, there is no hope. I'm going to close with that. Realize this important truth without you having faith in Messiah, accepting his work, what he did in order to for you to be forgiven. You don't have hope. But if you receive him, you'll have hope and you'll have blessings and you will be a recipient of his promises were in his kingdom.

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Well, we hope you will benefit from today's message and share it with others. Please plan to join us each week at this time and on this channel for our broadcast of love israel.org Again, to find out more about us please visit our website love Israel dot o RG there you will find articles and numerous other lectures by baru these teachings are in video for may download them or watch them in streaming video. Until next week, may the Lord bless you in our Messiah Yeshua. That is Jesus as you walk with it. Shalom from Israel.