

Luke 1_57-80 YAHWEH IS FAITHFUL_trimmed.mp3

Generated on: 2026-08-01 19:05 UTC

(soft music) - Open your Bibles to the Gospel of [Luke](#).

And the first chapter, and let's dismiss our middle school class, you guys are welcome to go back to your area for study.

So good to be with you guys this morning and to get back on track in our study in the Gospel of [Luke](#).

In fact, it's been about a month.

So back in the middle of June, when we were at the park, that was probably the last time.

After that, we did two Sundays relating to America's godly heritage, that solid understanding again, that so many of our founding fathers were solid believers.

You trusted the Lord, relied on it to some of the heritage and the history that really does, affirm the reality of us being founded on the word of God and the truth of God's word.

And we did it for two Sundays.

And Pastor Oli has been in the Pope at the last two Sundays teaching from [Colossians](#).

And of course, they had youth camp back at the end of June, and that's the book they focused on.

So it was really great to have Raleigh expound and to share from God's word from [Colossians](#), 'cause that's an incredibly powerful book.

And now we're back on track with the Gospel of [Luke](#).

Long chapter, 80 verses.

We spent three Sundays here already.

We're gonna finish the chapter today by going verses 57 through 80.

And that may sound like a miraculous thing.

It's only about 23 verses.

So guys, as we jump into this, I wanna kind of refresh everybody's memory about the reality of the Gospel of [Luke](#) and go through a couple of things to remind us.

Let's go back to the beginning of the chapter.

We spent two Sundays actually on this.

Looking at [Luke](#), looking at the historical reality of the dependency that we can have on God's word and how historically accurate it is.

And so we remember that [Luke](#) being a real class historian says this in verses one through four.

[Luke](#) said, "In so much as many have taken 'order to set in order,'" said in hand, "a narrative of those things which have been fulfilled 'among us, just as those who, from the beginning, 'were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, 'delivered them to us.

"It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding 'of all the things from the very first 'to write to you an orderly account, 'most excellent theophilus, 'that you may know the certainty of those things 'in which you were instructed, let's pray.

" Fathers, we begin our time in your word today.

Lord, how incredibly powerful of these verses that the [Luke](#) reminds us about the meticulous research that he did was led of by your Holy Spirit.

He was fully aware of the facts, Lord, the interviews that he had with eyewitnesses.

And most importantly, we understand the Holy Spirit directing and guiding and inspiring this particular book and all the books that make up the canon of scripture from [Genesis](#) to [Revelation](#).

And Lord, we're thankful today, that as we begin our time, that that verse four that told us again, that we may know the certainty.

There's absolute certainty of those things, the things that we study in which we are instructed.

So, may your living and active word accomplish what you would intend it to today in our hearts and our lives in this room and if those watching online, perhaps somebody watching down the road, God your word is living and powerful and it's active.

So, accomplish what you intend it to and Oruzal, we pray, help each of us to be willing participants with this time in your word today in Jesus name.

Amen.

Amen, guys.

So, as we study God's word, remember, a hallmark of what we do is Calvary Chapples, we study verse by verse, every book of the Bible, and we look at context.

Who, why, what, when, where, and how?

Typically, it's a who, who, who was God using?

Who was he speaking through?

Who was the audience and then the rest of those elements?

But of course, as we see the historical realities and what God's word communicates, there's application, we always wanna draw application from God's word and I would encourage you that as we spend time in the word today, that as we look at the reality of the people who were significant in this chapter because they are very significant, that we would see somebody that's an inspiration to us, for example, let me reflect a little bit on where we've already come.

So, in chapter one, verses five through 25, remember we had Gabriel come to Zacharias as he was serving in the temple.

In fact, he had the privilege of praying for Israel inside the holy place at the curtain that separated the holy place from the holy of holies.

And he was offering prayers at the altar of incense.

And Gabriel shows up as he's praying and tells him about a son that he's going to have.

And his son's name would be [John](#).

Now here's the interesting thing, right?

Is that of course Zacharias is older.

His wife Elizabeth is older well beyond the ability, naturally, to have a child.

But God is doing something remarkable.

He's doing something miraculous here with a big picture perspective that we all need to understand.

So, as Zacharias is engaged with Gabriel and Gabriel tells him the details of what's going to happen, Zacharias didn't initially believe.

And remember, so God shut his mouth.

He wasn't able to speak.

And the interesting thing is that we'll see in this text today, it's not until [John](#) is actually born that Zacharias is able to speak again.

So, we see somebody here who is in service to God, Gabriel the angel appears, but instead of having absolute faith in the moment, I think we'd probably be taking it back as well.

Right, an archangel shows up in your presence and be like, whoa, but you know, we also see is that Gabriel also went to Mary, a 15, 16 year old, Jewish girl shows up and communicates to her in verses 26 through 38, the reality of Jesus and his birth that the Messiah was about to come upon the scene and that the Lord had chosen her to be the one who the Holy Spirit would overshadow and supernaturally impregnate, and then she would give birth to the Messiah.

And you know what, she didn't know, she had absolute faith.

We're gonna see a little bit about that today as we jump back into the text.

And that was verses 26 through 38.

We also saw in verses 39 through 45 that Mary would then go and visit Elizabeth because they were relatives.

They were cousins.

And so God had this unique dynamic happening here where the Lord is going to bring [John](#) the Baptist who will be the final prophet, if you will, under the Old Testament economy because he's the one who's going to point everybody to the Messiah and with Messiah coming up on the scene who is Jesus that old covenant is closed and fulfilled and Jesus initiates a new covenant.

But their relatives as well, Jesus and [John](#) the Baptist were relatives in the flesh.

So there's unique dynamics there.

And then of course, I want you to join me in verse 46 because what we find here is Mary in light of everything that Gabriel had shared with her that the Lord had communicated to her.

We see her remarkable heart of response.

And there's a song of worship that she offers up.

And by the way, as you go through these passages, their allusions to Old Testament passages and she realizes these are being fulfilled.

She's overwhelmed by that truth.

In fact, one of my favorite Christmas songs comes from this to Chris Tom and song.

We actually sang in the park a month ago and it's my soul magnifies the Lord, right?

And that's what she says.

Look at verse 46.

She's worshipful.

Mary said, my soul magnifies.

Glorifies honors, lift up the Lord.

And my spirit has rejoiced in who?

God, my Savior, remarkable that she in her body physically would carry the Messiah who is our Savior.

Did you know that Mary would need salvation as well?
That Mary would need to put faith in her son as a Messiah and have her sins forgiven as well?
She said, verse 48, "For he the Lord has regarded the lowly state of his made servant.
" So if you've heard of the Greek word for servants, it's do-loss, it means slave.
This is actually the feminine version, do-lay.
And what she's saying here is that, Lord, I am your servant.
I am your slave.
I submit and I yield to you wholeheartedly.
So talk about humility, isn't that a beautiful example?
Just being humble before the Lord and worshipping him and blessing him, she goes on to say, again, for he has regarded the lowly state of his made servant for behold.
Henceforth, all generations will call me blessed.
For he who as mighty has done great things for me, I'm thinking of the song, and holy, right, is his name.
And his mercy is on those who fear him, and illusion to song 103, by the way, from generation to generation.
So to fear the Lord is to have awe and reverence for him to be inspired, inspired for who he is and what he's done.
And certainly, again, having Gabriel had appeared to her and sharing the details of what was going to happen, you'd be blown away, wouldn't you?
She was certainly an awe of the Lord, first and foremost.
She said in verse 51, "He has shown straight with His arm and he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
" You know, God's words has got to poses the proud, right?
[James](#) chapter four verses six and seven, God opposes the proud, but he does what?
He gives grace to the humble.
She addresses the God, scatters the proud.
But what does he do?
He blesses those who were humble and hearted.
Certainly, she is humble and heart.
Verse 52, "He has put down the mighty from their thrones, "and exalted, lifted up the lowly, the humble.
"He has filled the hungry with good things "and the rich, he has sent away empty.
" Now listen to this, this is so important, verse 54, "He has helped His servant Israel "in remembrance of his mercy.
" As he spoke to our fathers to Abraham and to his seed forever.
So here's an important thing to understand, that Mary understands with the juiciness of her heritage and the expectation of a coming Messiah, understanding the covenant that God made with Abraham to give Israel a land.
And the covenant he gave to David, the Davidic covenant, that the Messiah would come through His line.
She understood this was literal and this was real.
And now she's overwhelmed at the reality because of what God has shared with her through Gabriel, that they're on the cusp, they're on the precipice of the fulfillment of what Israel had long for centuries and generations and what was that, the Messiah to come.
She knew, wow, this is mind blowing.
And God is going to fulfill what He was faithful to promise to Abraham.
And we'll see in the text today, she alludes again.
And [Zechariah](#) does two, two, David and God's fulfillment.
Remember, the church does not and has not replaced Israel and God's plan.
We are not spiritual Israel.
God is faithful to them and she understood that dynamic.
So what a powerful truth we see there.
And then of course in verse 57 now, we pick it up.
This is where we're leaving off today.
So after in verse 56 Mary had remained with Elizabeth for three months.
Again, so can you imagine by the way, is she went to visit with Elizabeth?
The conversations that they had, the times of prayer, just seeking the Lord and saying, can you believe what God's doing?
Can you believe Elizabeth said, oh, what should we say?
God has blessed me with a child.
So remember in the Semitic cultures and in Israel as well, the Jewish culture, that if a woman was barren,

that that was a reproach upon her.
And they felt shame.
And a lot of times they were what down upon in those cultures.
So the reality of God had blessed her miraculously to bear a child.
She's blown away by that.
And imagine Mary saying, I can't believe that God has chosen me to carry the Messiah.
They had to be incredible conversations.
And I'm sure at the heart of it was like, who are we?
Who are we that the Lord would choose us to play such a unique role at all of His plans?
They were amazed, weren't they?
So as they had those conversations and she remained there with Elizabeth, we now pick up in verse 57.
Now Elizabeth full time came for her to be delivered to have her son.
And she brought forth a son.
So [John](#) was born.
Now we know in advance, obviously, from God's word and for familiar with the word.
This is what [John](#) the Baptist, but look what we find in verse 58, that when her neighbors and relatives heard how the Lord had shown great mercy to her, they rejoiced with her again.
That was an amazing thing.
They realized that God had blessed her.
He had been merciful to her, to allow her, right?
To become a mother, to bear a child.
So in her great age, that was a miraculous thing.
And certainly it was.
And so as they rejoiced, we find this, that according to tradition, for verse 59 says, "So it was it on the eighth day.
" So after he was born, the child was born, that they came to circumcise the child.
And they would have called him by the name of his father, Zacharias.
So as the relatives come, as the neighbors come, as the people who are close to them come for the circumcision.
And there's a dedicated, a Victoria aspect of this as well.
Their expectation, their expectation was that he would be named after his father, Zacharias.
So with that in mind, look what happens.
As they come expecting him to be called Zacharias as well.
Verse 60 says, "His mother answered, Elizabeth answered and said, 'No.
' He shall be called [John](#).
Yohanan is the Hebrew name.
" Now I'm gonna elaborate on his name in just a moment.
But she said, "His name is to be [John](#).
"" So something important to remember, I referred to remember Zacharias when Gabriel appeared to him.
And the Lord shut his mouth.
He was not able to speak.
He hadn't spoken for basically all of this time, over nine months leading up to this time.
So there's the interaction with Mary.
I mean, Elizabeth, she's kind of the spokesperson and all of this.
And so she said, "No, his name shall be called [John](#).
" Verse 61 goes on to say, "But they said to her, "there is no one among your relatives "who is called by his name.
" So why would you name him [John](#)?
That doesn't make sense according to our traditions and according to our culture.
Verse 62 says, "So they made signs to his father, "to Zacharias wondering what they should call him.
" So here's the interesting thing again.
He couldn't talk.
He had been writing to people on, I don't know if it was, you know, what he did exactly, but he was writing to them.
And some assumed that maybe he was even deaf because they started signing to him.
I'm not sure if that was a case, but we know he certainly couldn't speak.
So again, they made signs to his father.
What would him be called?
What they have been be called?

Now look at this, verse 63.

And he asked for a writing tablet and he wrote saying, "His name is [John](#).

" So he confirmed that.

He confirmed that his name would be [John](#) and they all marveled.

So here's an interesting thing, just a reminder.

So in Hebrew, the Hebrew names are often very rich in terms of what they convey and the truth of their meanings.

You guys remember that was Zacharias.

His name is Zacharias means that Yahweh remembers.

So God gave a promise and he told Zacharias his son would play a unique role, but he lost his voice for a while.

But ultimately, the reason of his name being so powerful as a reminder again that God is the faithful one, that Yahweh remembers.

And Elizabeth, Elisabeth, means promise of God that when God makes an oath, guess what?

God will fulfill what he said he's going to do.

So there are two names, Zacharias, and also Elisabeth, that's what they mean.

Yahweh remembers and the promise of God.

And then we think though about [John](#), Yohanan is his name.

And his name means Yahweh has been gracious, right?

And grace is a gift.

God gives grace for salvation, we say by grace to faith and that not of ourselves, [Ephesians](#) 2:8, but also the gift of grace for an ability to live for God is again, God's a source and he gives it.

So he's saying here that his name, Yohanan means that God has given grace.

He's been gracious.

And why has he been gracious?

Because ultimately he's brought the Messiah.

And his name, [John](#), because he's the forerunner, he's the one who will close the covenant.

And Jesus even says that [John](#) the Baptist is the last prophet that the prophets were until [John](#).

Why?

Because the Messiah is on the scene in Jesus himself.

So his name is Yohanan.

How powerful that God has been gracious.

Think about that.

God has been gracious to all of us, hadn't he?

If you know Jesus, if you've been born again by the Spirit of God, you become a child of God by virtue of the Holy Spirit giving your spirit life, it's by his grace, it's the gift and again, God's grace continues to flow to us for an ability and empowerment, like Rodney shared this morning from [2 Corinthians](#) 12 with Paul and his circumstance and issue.

When Jesus said to him after having prayed three times, Paul, my grace, my chorus, my gift is what?

Suffice it.

In other words, it's all you need.

God wanted him to be holy dependent.

And remember Paul's response, it's like he had in a hall moment.

He gets it.

He goes, "Oh, so when I'm weak, right, your grace is manifest.

So in my weakness, your grace is revealed.

" And he said, "I glory in my weakness," isn't it?

The persecutions, the infirmities, the persecution for when I'm weak, he is strong and God's glorified.

Paul realized it was not opportunity for everybody to see the Lord at work through him, that it wasn't him, it was God and God would get the glory, incredibly powerful.

So as we pick it up, as [John](#) had written, we find in verse 64 then, immediately, after he had written on the tablet, his name should be called [John](#) Yocannon, verse 64, immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue was loose and he spoke praising God.

Now what we're gonna see here to close this chapter out here in just a few minutes is the reality of the Holy Spirit compelling and enabling Zacharias to give forth prophecy relating to his son and also Messiah and what was going to happen.

And all this time, all this time, his nine plus months, he was able to speak and could only communicate through writing.

So the first thing he did is what is give praise to God.

That makes sense, right?

I think we all would as well and we should.

And because this all happened, look at verse 65, then fear came on all who dwelt among them.

So remember, this aspect of fear is to be in awe, to be overwhelmed, have your mind blowed, to be in reverence of God to understand that this is an amazing, powerful and awesome thing that God has done so he were moved in awe of what the Lord had done.

And it says in the last half of the verse, "And all these sayings were discussed throughout the hill country of Judea around that area where this was playing out.

" So work travels fast, right?

They didn't have modern technology like we do, but we always know that in community, smaller communities, it doesn't take long for the scuttle but to get from this person to that person and all of a sudden you hear two days later, I appreciate it with something else, it's all over town.

But this was not a rumor, this was communicating realities about what God had done and it's served their hearts.

In fact, look what verse 66 says, "And all those who heard them communicating the realities of what had happened, they kept them in their hearts so like they treasured it, they realized this is an incredibly important thing.

They took it to heart and they were saying, "What kind of child will this be?

" Now they're talking about [John](#).

So what is God doing here?

Why has the Lord blessed Zacharias and Elizabeth in their old age?

What is God up to?

What is happening here?

And they were curious to know, what kind of child will this be?

And it says, "And the hand of the Lord, the enablement of the Lord was upon who?

" Him, [John](#) the Baptist.

And that's the reality.

Now I said, "Moment ago about Zacharias then being inspired by the Holy Spirit with a prophecy and that's how this chapter clothes out.

" And by the way, as we read through these verses, just like in Mary's song earlier, and the illusions to Old Testament passages throughout the rest of what he says.

What Zacharias is prophesying under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, their illusions also to Old Testament passages and God's goodness and faithfulness.

Remember, 28% of the Bible is prophetic.

There are a lot of prophecies about Jesus, right?

And his first coming, there are eight times, by the way, eight times more prophecies about Jesus and second coming than his first one.

And both are extremely important.

We're living in a day and age with everything we're seeing in the world today, that we're living in the last days.

We're watching the landscape of what God's words said prophetically, but the world would be like just prior to Jesus that's coming back.

But 2000 years ago, the most important aspect of what could happen in the history of humanity would be that the Messiah would come.

But he would use a forerunner.

And that would be [John](#) the Baptist.

So verse 68 says, verse 67 says this, now his father, Zacharias, was filled with the Holy Spirit.

Remember when you're filled with the Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit enables, he empowers, he directs, and he controls.

And that's why it's important for us every day guys.

When we're born again, the Holy Spirit and dwells us permanently, takes up residence in us.

But we see throughout God's words, especially in the book of [Acts](#), about the importance of being filled with the Holy Spirit because that's an enablement, right?

It's just like a car, you've got to put gas for your car, your phone, you've got to charge your phone up.

We need the Holy Spirit to enable and to empower us because if we're not depending on God to enable us, then we're not going to live this life successfully.

It's only by the power of God.

So the Holy Spirit is filling him.

And look what it says, and he prophesied, say, blessed is the Lord God of Israel for he has visited and

redeemed his people.
The first thing that he says, right, after he prays God earlier, he continues in praise.
This is adoration to the Lord for what he is doing.
Securias is overwhelmed by this truth and the reality of what's playing out.
So blessed, worship honor glorified, be the Lord God, the outlaw of Elohim of Israel.
And he realizes again, because of what's happening here with his son.
And what's happening with Mary?
Because remember, as Mary has come and spent three months with Elizabeth, she's in the household with Elizabeth and who?
Zacharias, Mary knows that her son, who's going to be born, will be who?
The Messiah.
So Zacharias gets all of this.
He's overwhelmed that the time has come in the history of Israel for the Messiah to be born.
And he's amazed.
I think we would all be overwhelmed, wouldn't we?
And we would be glorifying God.
It would be incredible.
Because he has visited and redeemed his people.
The provision for our salvation was at hand.
He says in verse 69, "And has raised up a horn of salvation, salvation rescue, and redemption."
In the Old Testament, you see that terminology like for horn.
The context is typically it means power.
It means strength.
And so that's what he's alluding to is he quotes again from the Old Testament.
That he has raised up a horn this power of salvation for us.
And it is in the house of his servant, David David.
So that's important.
Zacharias, a Jewish man, believing God's word that he would be faithful again to Abraham and to Israel.
And he would be faithful to David to bring the Messiah.
He believes it.
And so he's excited.
He's thrilled.
Here we are.
We're almost to the point of the Messiah being among us.
He's amazed and God is fulfilling his promises to David.
For 70 says as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets so that he would be the Lord.
And that's exactly what the Lord did.
He channeled.
He taught his word.
He brought his word, the prophetic word through the prophets.
And they have been since what the world began that God was communicating and speaking.
For 71 says that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who have hated us.
So that's a direct connection to Israel's unique plan.
The God's plan for Israel and his faithfulness to them.
We've talked about this many times over the history of our fellowship.
Guys, are you amazed at the rising hatred and anti-Semitism?
The hatred toward Israel?
Well, if you know God's word and you know what we're living at in the last days, you're not surprised because that's exactly what God's word said.
But yet it is shocking and it blows your mind because it doesn't make any sense.
It's demonically and satanically inspired and fueled.
It does not make any sense.
But God is the one who again, who's faithful.
Remember, it's not because Israel's special.
You know what, when we come to know Jesus is Lord and savior, it's certainly not because we're special.
Had nothing to do.
I'm not special.
Certainly not.
I'm so glad God saved a rich like me.

And it's not that we're so special that God, He does use us in unique ways, but it's always all about Jesus. And it's God's faithfulness.

In fact, in [Ezekiel](#) 36, in the prophecies we see from there, when God prophesies about Israel that in the last days, that for them being scattered for 2,000 years, He would regather them in the last days.

By the way, that happened May 14, 1948.

He says in [Ezekiel](#) 36, that God is not doing this because of them, but because of His name's sake, for His glory and for His honor.

It's all about Him being lifted up and the world's seeing that His Jesus and His faithfulness.

But [Zechariah](#) understands God is going to fulfill what he promised David.

And he says again through the prophets and about the enemies who might come against them.

Verse 72 says, "You performed in the mercy, the God's extension of mercy, that He promised to our fathers.

He's reflecting back on Israel's history and to the promise to the fathers and the prophets.

And to remember His holy covenant, right?

God is the one who's made the covenant.

God made the covenant with Abraham and it was unconditional.

Abraham doesn't play anything in it.

God made an unconditional covenant with David, wasn't based on what David did.

So when God makes an unconditional covenant, He's faithful to keep it.

And again, [Zechariah](#) is excited.

He's got to be blown away by what's happening and knowing what's going to be happening in the days to come.

Then He says in verse 73, the oath which He swore to our father, Abraham, so again, the reflection about what?

The oath that God made, the promise that He gave Abraham for 74 to grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve Him, the Lord, without fear.

In holiness and righteousness before Him, all the days of our lives.

So an amazing sense in His heart and life.

Again, and He's sharing this, as God has inspired in this prophetically.

So the audience that people would hear this, and of course, here we are 2,000 years later, because the Holy Spirit inspired [Luke](#) to record this and share this with us.

It's remarkable and it's powerful, guys.

It truly is.

Verse 76 says, "And you, child, will be called the prophet of the highest.

For you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways.

" So who's that child?

His son.

His son, [John](#), would be the one who's the forerunner that would go forth in the spirit and the power of Elijah to communicate and say, "Prepare the way of the Lord to fill prophecies related to [Isaiah](#) as well.

" He would be the one who would have the privilege to point people to Jesus.

He is the one who would have the privilege who would say, "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world.

" Folks, this is incredible.

All of this stuff, this playing out here in the chapters.

So he goes on to say again about the uniqueness of [John](#)'s role.

He preparing His ways for 77 says, "And to give knowledge of salvation redemption and rescue to His people.

" And how would that be by the remission, the forgiveness of their sins, through who?

Jesus, the Messiah.

The Messiah who was coming, the one who would be born and was born, the one who would live a perfect and sinless life and would offer His life up on the cruel altar of the cross to shed His blood for the sins of all mankind.

And that's exactly what Jesus did 33 years later after His birth.

But this is all being set in place.

The stage setting is there.

The foundational aspect of all of this moving forward is now in play.

And so the Holy Spirit is inspiring and prophesying through Zacharias.

Again, to give knowledge of salvation redemption to His people and as how by the remission of sins, guys, there's no way any person can ever have eternal life, penitentiary with God, unless their sins have

been forgiven.

That's what Jesus came to do, right?

Even in the old covenant, remember, it was by faith, God accounted Abraham's faith as righteousness. We see in [Hebrews](#) 11 that there's what's called the hall of faith of people who by faith trusted God, not ever seeing the promise themselves tangibly and they died in faith, but because they had a faith in God, it wasn't by works, God honored their faith.

They went to Abraham's prism paradise.

And that's where they awaited until Messiah came and when Jesus died on the cross.

And in that time of that three-day period, he went and took those who were of the old covenant who were the faithful and he took them to heaven to be with the Lord and now in the new covenant, remember, because of what Jesus has done like Paul says in [2 Corinthians](#) 2, for us, when we die to be absent from our physical bodies is to be present with who, the Lord, to be with him.

How incredibly wonderful is that?

So again, it's not by works, it's not by belonging to a specific faith system.

It's all about Jesus knowing Him for who He is and then being born again by the spirit of the living God, remission of sins, the knowledge of salvation and praise God is not overly complicated, right?

Final few verses of this chapter.

Through the tender mercy of our God, so remember, we've been talking about grace, right?

So grace is a gift, we don't earn it, it's unmerited, but remember mercy is God with holding what we do deserve in that judgment.

So God extends grace and he extends mercy as well.

So he reflects on that.

Through the tender mercy, God with holding the judgment we deserve with holding that and extending mercy of our God with which the day spring and that's a prophetic reality to about Jesus.

On high has visited us.

Remember, when Jesus does show up, He should be called Emmanuel, God with us.

You should call Him Jesus, Yeshua.

Why?

Because His name, salvation, it means salvation.

He will save His people from their what?

Sins.

Jesus will save all, put their faith in trust in from their sins.

We find in verse 79 to give light, spiritual light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.

Remember until we're born again, we're dead.

You may be alive physically, you may be alive, you have a soul that's active and your spirit is real, but it is dead conditionally in sin.

So when there's somebody in a prison who's on death row and they're going to be executed, while they're making their way to the execution chamber, there's somebody who will go before them and says, "Dead man walking.

" That's pretty sobering, right?

You imagine being in the shoes of somebody who's gonna be executed?

Well, here's the reality.

That applies.

Every person who is not born again by the Spirit of God.

You're already a dead man walking.

You have to pass from death spiritually into life and that's at the moment we're born again.

That's why Jesus came.

And so that light, that Jesus is the light of the world and the light of the reality that we're transferred from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of Jesus and his dear son, that's what happens.

Remember, getting the gospel is simple.

The good news, that Jesus is God coming to flesh, that he died on the cross for our sins and on the third day he was raised from the dead.

If you believe that Jesus is God coming to flesh, you believe he did die on a cross when he was raised from the dead and you confess your sins to him.

Confession means I am in agreement with you that I am a sinner by the way I'll have sinned.

Anything that's outside of God's will is sin.

I'll have sinned to come short of God's standard of perfection.

But guess what?

The vision is sin and death.

But the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.
 He extends that gift of grace and salvation.
 So many believe Jesus is Lord.
 And we repent.
 That word repentance, meant to know, "Oh, just need to have a change of mind and heart and direction.
 " You know, you're living your life, be up in this way.
 Away from God, the Holy Spirit begins to speak to your heart.
 He begins to bring clarity to your mind and understanding that you're lost, that you're dead in your sin and you must be born again.
 And in that moment you call out to God and say, "Please forgive me in my sin.
 " There's sincerity to that asking.
 And you Lord, please, I believe Jesus, you are Lord.
 You died on a cross from my sins, you were raised from the dead.
 Please cleanse me from my sin.
 Please forgive me and save me.
 Be my Lord and save you.
 Guess what?
 The greatest miracle you'll ever experience happens in that moment.
 Because God responds to a prayer faith like that, in sincerity.
 And we become a child of God.
[John](#) 112, "To as many as received him, he gave the right, the power, authority to become, children of God, to as many as believed on his name.
 " Again, Yeshua, that means the Lord is salvation.
 So isn't that amazing?
 Praise God, it's not a complicated, religious thing, it's relational.
 And then we enter into eternal life.
 It becomes our gift at that moment.
 And then we have this privilege of walking with Him until we draw our last breath.
 And knowing, right, that our citizenship is in heaven.
 So though when we do draw our last breath, to be absent from the body will be the reality of experiencing what?
 Be home, to be present with the Lord, amen?
 So verse 79 and 80 to close, again, to give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.
 By the way, the Lord is Yahweh Shalom, the Lord of peace.
 Jesus is the prince of peace.
 And we find this relating to [John](#) and to close verse, or chapter one.
 So the child, [John](#) grew and became strong in spirit.
 So he grew up in a home with Zacharias and Elizabeth who loved the Lord, right?
 They invested in him.
 They worshiped the Lord together.
 They taught him the Word of God.
 They taught him the Tanakh.
 And the Lord was preparing [John](#) for the uniqueness of his role.
 So the child grew and became strong in the spirit.
 It was in the deserts till the day of his manifestation to Israel, that moment in time where God would bring him to the forefront to play that role again of pointing people to Jesus and pointing Jesus out to the people, right?
 So this is incredible stuff.
 There's so much depth here.
 Just pointing out again the connections with the history of Israel, God's faithfulness and His promises.
 And of course, next week as we continue, we'll jump into chapter two.
 And we come into those things that we're familiar with at Christmas season, right?
 But Mary and Joseph, the Jesus being born and all these things, it's incredibly powerful.
 And by the way, we're gonna see some more amazing stuff relating to history and the reality of how incredibly accurate God's Word is and what [Luke](#) did and how actually, actually incredibly accurate what he communicated is because God is the one through the Holy Spirit who inspired Amen.
 So guys, let's pray and we're gonna get back into a little worship if you can include our time together today.

So Father in Jesus' name we do, we praise you and we thank you for the privilege of the time we've given us.

We thank you for your word as living and active and powerful.

And I just pray right now in the moment, Lord, for every person that's in this room, you know, every heart here, for every person that's watching online, you know, their hearts and Lord, there is somebody who doesn't know they have eternal life.

That does not know if they were to draw their last breath even now that they had stepped in your presence.

Lord, please bring clarity to them that today could be the day for them to pass from death to life spiritually.

It's not a complicated religious thing again, just simply looking to you, believing you for who you are, confessing our sin, putting our trust in you, and having that change of mind and in heart and direction, Lord, and following you.

So even as we worship Lord to conclude our time together, or anybody in this room or somebody online could simply come before you and pray that prayer in faith.

And Father, our elders in Pastor Raleigh will be in the cross at the back of the room.

Lord, if there's anybody that needs prayer or somebody's praying for salvation this morning and praying to receive you Jesus, they can go back and have these guys pray with them and minister to them and to love on them as well.

And so Lord, we just pray that as we begin to see your praises again that you would inhabit our praises and your will would be done.

[music] [music]