

Certainty... in a world of doubt

The Gospel of Luke

desert breeze
community church



Saturday & Sunday, November 26/27, 2016 Ray Davis

“Promise” Luke 1:5-25

People defect from the faith primarily for two reasons: deceived by the pleasures of sin and disillusioned by the pain of suffering. The power of God’s promises breaks the power of sin’s promises and suffering’s perplexities. God is a promise making and promise keeping God!

How do we hold on to our faith even when God doesn’t make sense?

Luke 1:5-25

What Are The Promises Of God That We Can Count On? I Must Always Remember That...

- My Plans Have a Limit. V1 In the days of Herod, king of Judea... v7 they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years. Pro19:21, 21:31; Phil4:13
- My Pain Has a Purpose. Rom8:28-30; Gen50:20
- My Prayers Have Power. Vv11-14; James 4:2, 5:16; 1Cor2:9-10
- My Impatience Casts Suspicion on God’s Greatness/Goodness. Vv18-19; Luke 1:34, 37 For nothing will be impossible with God.
- My Progress in the faith Will Need Discipline. V20, Heb12:5-11, 15
- My Perseverance Has a Payoff. V6 And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. Vv14-17; Gal6:9; Heb11:24-26

• God’s Purposes/Promises Will Ultimately Prevail!

It seemed to many that God had forsaken Israel. But God broke His four-hundred-year silence by using an aging barren couple to give birth to the prophesied forerunner of the Messiah (Mal. 3:1; 4:5-6). Job 42:2

Zechariah = lit. Jehovah has remembered

Elizabeth = lit. The oath of God

Their Names Together means Jehovah remembers His oath (promise).

John = lit. The favor or grace of Jehovah

Are the promises of God conditional or unconditional? Yes! Because on the Cross Jesus Christ absolutely fulfilled the conditions of the law so that God could love us absolutely unconditionally.

For all the promises of God find their Yes in Him (Christ).-2Cor1:20 God is always for us because in Christ our sins can never be held against us! (Rom8:1, 31-32)

Growing Notes

- 1)** Have you ever experienced events in your life that caused you to question God’s love, wisdom or power? What would you say to a friend who feels like God has let them down? What does it mean that the power of God’s promises break the power of sin’s promises and suffering’s perplexities?
- 2)** Read Luke 1:5-25. What stands out to you from this text? What characteristics did Zechariah and Elizabeth have in common (vv6-7)? How well did they handle the disappointment of childlessness (vv6, 13, 25)? What did Zechariah experience while serving as Priest in the Temple (vv11-22)? How do you think Zechariah and Elizabeth felt during those extraordinary days after the Angel’s promise?
- 3)** Review the seven promises of God (along with cross references) that we can count on when life doesn’t make sense. How do these seven promises relate to the story of Zechariah and Elizabeth? How do they relate to your life? Which one(s) are most helpful to you? Which one(s) do you need to grow in the most?
- 4)** It seemed to many that God had forsaken Israel. But God broke His four-hundred-year silence by using an aging barren couple to give birth to the prophesied forerunner of the Messiah (Mal. 3:1; 4:5-6). How is this story applicable both personally and corporately? What is God speaking to you through this story? Pray.