



9:00 Live Sunday School at FBJ

Lesson 5

The Good News of Salvation Shared through a Jewish Priest Part 2: Luke 1:67-80

I. Luke wants us to see:

- A. God fulfilled His promise of Malachi 4
- B. Role of John the Baptist
- C. Role of the Messiah

II. The *Benedictus*

- A. Known as the *Benedictus* because in Latin first word is “Blessed” – like Mary’s “Magnificat”
- We end church with a “benediction” – a blessing to send us on our way
- B. This is a part of the Catholic church liturgy called the Lauds - This is one sentence in the Greek

III. vv.67-68 – Once again “filled with the Holy Spirit” - Note “prophesying” like his son will do

- A. v.68 – “for” is Greek word *hoti* – most often translated “because”
- B. Why is the Lord God of Israel to be *Benedictus*? Because...
 - 1. He’s visited and
 - 2. He’s redeemed
- C. Notice the tense – it’s the aorist tense in Greek - No direct English equivalent - Best as “it’s started but not over” - Like coming into the ball game in 2nd inning
- D. When did it begin to be in the aorist tense? Mary visits Elizabeth – vv. 39-45

IV. vv.69-70 – “horn of salvation”

- A. Salvation in Greek is *soteria* – it’s a noun - the study of salvation is soteriology
 - Only in NT 45 times – only 5 in the Gospels
 - Luke uses it 4 times and John once - Luke-Acts uses it 10 times

B. “Savior” is *soter* - is only in Gospels 3 times: Luke twice and John once

1. John 4:16-26; 39-42

2. Luke uses *soter* in the *Magnificat* (v.47) and 2:11: “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord” KJV

C. When *soteria* used in Luke are all in the Benedictus: 1) v.69, 2) v.71 and 3) v.77

1. Zechariah says to his son: you are going to give knowledge of *soteria* to our fellow Jews when they are forgiven of their sins – This is RADICAL

2. This is a radical concept to the Jews of the Old Covenant – why do they need “saving” from anything? They have the Abrahamic covenant

3. Announcing the prophet of the Most High (v.76) who brings the knowledge of *soteria* through a *Soter* to the people of the Lord God of Israel (v.68) took YHWH’s hand:

a. An appearance of an angel for the first time in 400 years

b. To a righteous, observant priest who drew the lot to be in the Temple on that day

c. Who had a miraculous timeout of being deaf and mute for 9 months for disbelief

d. Who fathered a child to a righteous barren wife

e. Who miraculously got his voice and hearing back

f. Is saying to his fellow members of the Abrahamic covenant: My son is going to give you the knowledge of how to be saved from your sins through forgiveness

D. Where does this “Horn of Salvation” come from? - The house of David

E. v.70 – Davidic covenant fulfilled

V. vv.71-75

A. v. 71 - Who are “the enemies”?

- Not likely the Roman government if this is a letter to help Paul - Most likely Satan and enemies of YHWH – eternal damnation

B. vv.72-75 - Zechariah speaks to not only the Davidic Covenant but the Abrahamic Covenant

VI. vv. 76-77

A. Tense changes from aorist “past begun” - No one after JTB is called the Prophet of the Most High

B. JTB has a two-part job:

1. Go before the Lord to prepare His ways

2. Give knowledge of salvation to His people

C. Jesus commissioned the Twelve in Matthew 10:5-8a: *These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And proclaim as you go, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers... (ESV)*

- When were the 12 “decommissioned” from this? Never
- Paul’s ministry is to us Gentiles

D. “salvation...in the forgiveness of their sins” ???

- This is a righteous priest who son is a prophet of the Most High Lord God of Israel saying the former ways of having sins forgiven through the Levitical priesthood is over
- A sign of this “new way” is baptism

VII. vv.78-79 - Why would YHWH do this send of this prophet? Three reasons:

A. His “tender” mercies – Greek is *splagchnon* – means from the spleen – we’d say from our gut/heart

1. 1 John 3:17: But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes **his heart** against him, how does God's love abide in him? (ESV)

B. Guide us out of our darkness in the shadow of death by a Light to our feet

C. “A way of peace” – peace between my sin and my Lord

VIII. v.80 – Was JTB and Essene? Save it Luke 3

IX. The Benedictus Summary? Blessed be the Lord God of Israel – Why? Five reasons:

A. He’s raised up a Horn of Salvation for His people

B. It’s a fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant

C. We will be saved from the Enemy who hates us

D. He’s showing us His heart for His children to be saved and close the separation caused by sinfulness

E. It’s a fulfillment of the Abrahamic Covenant – not a new one – where we serve Him without fear, in righteousness, holiness and in peace

Questions? Comments? Thoughts? nick@nickwalters.org