

Sermon: Knowledge of Salvation.
Series: Luke: Good News for Everyone.

Scripture: Luke 1:57-80.
Date: December 17, 2023

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about us?

- a) In verses 77-79 Zechariah speaks of our sin and living under the “shadow of death.” Do you know what will happen to you when you die? What is your biggest fear in death?
- b) How is our sin connected to our death? Could you explain this doctrine to someone?

2. What does this passage teach us about God?

- a) God is described as having “tender mercy” for us in verse 78. Tender = from the guts. Mercy = kindness and compassion. What’s the difference between mercy and merit? Do you see yourself as under God’s mercy or under his merit system? Explain.

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

- a) How does Zechariah describe salvation in his song? Consider verses 69-71, and 77-79. How are these “two salvations” different? How might Jesus fulfill verses 69-71 for Israel? How might Jesus fulfill verses 77-79 for all mankind?

APPLICATION

- a) Read v. 74-75. Zechariah speaks of being able to serve God without fear in holiness and righteousness. Read Titus 2:11-12. Why does grace alone produce godliness in a person’s life? Have you seen this dynamic of grace producing holiness and godliness play out in your life? In what ways?

PRAYER

- Acknowledge God’s tender mercy for you.
- Confess ways that you have tried to cover up your sin.
- Thank Jesus for his salvation from sin and the fear of death.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to constantly bring your forgiveness to mind and to free you from serving in fear that you might serve in love.