

November 29th Sunday 2015

Text: 1 Kings 17:7 – 16

Topic: The Mouthpiece of God (II)

What do you have in your possession that you cannot give God? This is a question that every human being needs to answer. Peter gave Jesus his boat and afterwards he was a great fisher man ever recorded in the scripture. The widow of Zarephat and her son were left with the last meal they had to eat and then die, but when they gave God, it was the making of a new history.

How the flour and the oil were maintained throughout the season of famine is only called the miracle of God. When you give God what you have he will sustain you in all seasons. The reason why the seed remained alone in your hands may be because it was not sown and died; for this is the way it will multiply. Take that step of faith today and watch the God of miracle. Listen to his word for you and me: ***“...Test me in this, says the Lord Almighty, “ and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.”*** (Malachi 3:10).

Lesson: The hand that gives shall also receive from the overflowing treasure of the Almighty God.

Prayer: Oh Lord, let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still, above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self will, Amen.

November 30th Monday 2015

Text: 1 Kings 17:17 – 24

Topic: The Image of God

Naturally a monkey gives birth to a monkey, chimpanzee to a chimpanzee, human being to a human being. Spirit gives birth to spirit, flesh to flesh; common things will produce common results while uncommon things will produce uncommon results. Doing the common will only make you a common man, but the uncommon will make you otherwise.

"Isn't this the carpenter's son? (Matt 13:55). That was the people's question when they saw the incredible power of God in display in the life of Jesus who has been with the Father. When you constantly meet with God you cease to be common. Elijah in his days locked the heavens, but it was not enough reason even for the widow to certify him as a true man of God until when her dead son came back to life. It was God's power she saw at work and could not deny it.

In as much as the whole creation eagerly awaits the manifestation of the sons of God, God is also waiting for your rise so He can show forth His power in these Last days. I believe you will be among the end time army of the Lord that will usher the last days' revival as you remain in Him

Lesson: Walk worthy of your calling as a child of God, and manifest the character of your heavenly father.

Prayer: O Jesus I have promised to serve thee to the end. Be thou forever near me, my master and my friend, Amen.

THE MONTH OF DECEMBER
TEXT FOR THE MONTH: LUKE 1 - 9; 21 – 24
FOCUS: GOD IS ALWAYS OUR GOD

Introduction

The Luke's Good news of Jesus has often been described as the work of a talented literary artist and can simply be enjoyed as such. But this is not the main focus for reading this Gospel. It is a story that advances our knowledge about Jesus, the one on whom our FAITH depends (God is always our God) from beginning to end. The author wrote not only as a skilled writer or a competent historian: above all he wrote as a committed Christian. He wanted to impress on his fellow Christians the constant need to keep in mind Jesus' deeds and words, his suffering and death, his resurrection and exaltation. The gospel is for everyone. The ANGEL proclaims "Peace on earth to those with whom [God] is pleased" (2:14). These events were the only firm basis for their faith and are so for Christians today.

December 1st Tuesday

Text: Luke 1:1-25

Topic: The Birth of the John the Baptist

Today, we are looking at the birth of John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus Christ in the New Testament. Luke, a Gentile physician and a historian in the early church investigated and wrote these facts for us today. The birth of John was a miracle. His parents were well advanced in years and his mother was barren. As a priest, this family had been trusting God for a child for many years, but that did not come to pass until they had reached advanced age. God answers our prayer in His own way and time (1:2). A barren woman giving birth at an advanced age, what can you say about this? Pray and allow God to work out thing at His will and time. Zechariah the priest doubted because he was thinking like a human being. Are you also thinking like human being in your prayer to God? Open up and let His will be done.

Lesson: Have you or are you doubting God about something?

Prayer: Lord, we thank you because your thoughts are different from ours. Help us to trust you. Amen.

December 2nd Wednesday 2015

Text: Luke 1:37

Topic: Nothing Will Be Impossible

The angel Gabriel told Mary that God was planning to do something humanly impossible. All human logic would agree that a virgin could not give birth to a child. It was impossible. Yet this is exactly what was to happen. When God speaks of doing the impossible, it is no longer absurd. When was the last time God did the impossible in your life? When was the last time God spoke to you about what He wanted to do and you were scared to death by its magnitude?

God still does the impossible! Too often we acknowledge our belief that God can do whatever He wants, and then we add a safety clause: "But I just don't think God will do that with me!" We become practical atheists, believing that God can perform miracles but never expecting a miracle in our own lives.

God wanted to bring salvation to all of humanity. It is critical that Mary not only believed God could perform a miracle but also adjusted her life to the awesome work He planned to do through her. The difference between a Christian and a moral person is the divine. The difference between a church and a social club is the miraculous. Some can duplicate the morality of a Christian, but no one can reproduce the miraculous that should be a part of the Christian experience.

Lesson: Do you believe that nothing is impossible for God?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, help me to adjust my life to the awesome work you planned to do through me. Amen.

December 3rd Thursday 2015

Text: Luke 1:45

Topic: Blessed in Believing

In the kingdom of God, believing is a prerequisite to receiving. God spoke to Mary and gave the assurances He always gives when He assigns the impossible to His people. Everything was in place for God to act. Everything waited on Mary to believe Him. Once she believed, it was done! It takes an undivided heart to believe under such circumstances and a pure heart to see God (Matt. 5:8; Heb. 12:14).

This has always been God's way with His people. Mary could not see all that had been arranged and assembled in the courts of heaven. She could not see the legions of angels prepared to protect her and her baby. She was unaware of the future and all that she and her child would face. All she knew was that God had spoken to her, and that was enough. So she responded: "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38).

When God speaks about His plans, He does so with everything already in place to fulfill His word. God never speaks hypothetically. He knows exactly what will come to pass. He simply asks you to believe Him. You will experience great blessing when you place your absolute trust in Him. Mary could not have dreamed all that would result from her faithful obedience. Likewise, you cannot possibly imagine all that God has in store for you when you trust Him. He knows exactly what He will do to bring salvation to someone you have prayed for or to heal your friend or to provide for your needs.

Lesson: God has everything in place. Will you believe Him?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, help to believe your word. Amen.

December 4th Friday 2015

Text: Luke 1:46-55.

Topic: Singing Theology

Have you ever had a song stuck in your head – the tune playing over and over in your mind? Sometimes you can't help singing or humming the stuck tune all day long.

One day Mary, overwhelmed that she was chosen to give birth to the savior of the world, sang about the wonders of God.

Mary's song of devotion to God had three themes:

First, Mary sang about God's delight to give grace to the humble. God seeks people who see him with all their heart and mind without drawing attention to them.

Mary was on God's radar screen because of her humility. But her choosing was not of merit but of grace.

Second, Mary boasted that God showed mercy. "His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation." God, who has displayed judgment over the nations, is the same God who is slow to anger and abounds in loving – kindness. God, in Jesus, gives us mercy when we deserve something far worse: Punishment for our sins.

Third, Mary's song remembered that God is generous to those who are empty. Those who believe true life is about building up their personal wealth discover the emptiness of their lifestyles.

Lesson: Ultimately those who are hungry for God's grace and good things will be filled

Prayer: Lord, we sing to you with great joy and gladness as the savior of the world today. O God, thank you for your grace and mercy; fill us with your goodness and love, we pray Amen.

December 5th Saturday 2015

Text: Luke 1:46-47

Topic: Spontaneous Praise

Praise is the spontaneous response of a grateful child of God in His presence. The person who knows God and experiences Him intimately sings to the Lord with deepest praise! Mary was overwhelmed by the Lord's goodness to her. In response she sang one of the most beautiful and profound songs of praise found in Scripture. Trying to stop the praise of a thankful heart would be like trying to arrest the flow of a mighty waterfall! God created us to praise Him; praise will be our activity when we are gathered around His throne in heaven.

You should never have difficulty thinking of reasons why God deserves your praise. You should enjoy the times you have to praise your Lord, both privately and publicly in worship. If your life is not filled with praise, it may be that you have lost your appreciation for God's merciful activity in your life. Never forget what God has saved you from. Never take for granted what it means to have the assurance of eternity with God. Do not disregard the spiritual kinship you enjoy with other believers. Take time often to recount the blessings He has poured out upon you and your family. As you contemplate the boundless love and mercy God has shown you, you will want to sing His praises as Mary did.

Lesson: Spontaneous praise is authentic praise. It does not have to be manipulated or orchestrated. It is a real and personal expression of a grateful heart and wonder-filled life that has encountered holy God!

Prayer: Dear Lord, help me have real encounters with you so that I can praise you spontaneously. Amen.