

Luke 1:67–79

“How We Praise God Matters”

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- 67 Now his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying:  
68 “Blessed is the Lord God of Israel,  
For He has visited and redeemed His people,  
69 And has raised up a horn of salvation for us  
In the house of His servant David,  
70 As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets,  
Who have been since the world began,  
71 That we should be saved from our enemies  
And from the hand of all who hate us,  
72 To perform the mercy promised to our fathers  
And to remember His holy covenant,  
73 The oath which He swore to our father Abraham:  
74 To grant us that we,  
Being delivered from the hand of our enemies,  
Might serve Him without fear,  
75 In holiness and righteousness before Him all the days of our life.  
76 “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,  
77 To give knowledge of salvation to His people  
By the remission of their sins,  
78 Through the tender mercy of our God,  
With which the Dayspring from on high has visited us;  
79 To give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death,  
To guide our feet into the way of peace.”

**Main Idea:** God's purpose for Israel's prolonged persecution was that they might know Him and tell their children of His great salvation. So also, for believers, in all our prolonged troubles the Lord is making us more to know Him and to tell our children His greatness and the greatness of His salvation.

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Luke chapter one verses 67 thru 79.

His father Zachariah was filled with the Holy Spirit prophesied and said, possibly the Lord God of Israel, where he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up the Horn of salvation for us in the House of his servant David.

As he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from a bowl that we should be safe from enemies and and from the hand of all who wait us to show the mercy promise to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant.

The opening sword.

Our father Abraham, to grant us that we being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him.

All of our days in you, you child will be called the probably the most high you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness.

Understands because of the tender.

Mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall.

Visit us from on.

High to give light to those who sit in darkness in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Let us pray.

Holy God, we come here this morning.

Lord and we.

We praise your name, Lord.

We praise your name that you have raised up the Horn of salvation for us in the house.

Of your servant.

David, we praise your name that has from the mouth of the holy prophets from a bowl he was spoken of that he should save us from our enemies and at the same time we praise him that he will come again one day and we long for that day.

Or as we hear the reading, the teaching of your word, or we pray that.

The third person of.

The Holy Spirit

Would illuminate our minds and power our minds.

And draw us closer to you.

Or because you have called us.

Or you have.

Called us to serve you in holiness and righteousness.

We ask these things, your holding precious name, Amen.

Right?

He may be seated.

Sorry about that, I got distracted.

So First things first, we're going to throw this out here so everyone can understand it.

I am on leave.

This is why.

I have a beard I don't be.

I'll have to shave my beard in about 2.

And a half weeks, but for now this is.

This is where.

We are so I I keep telling my.

Right?

Wife, this is a portent of things to come in a few years when I finally.

And retired and no longer have to wear the military uniform every day.

So I think it's really surprised that regulated Christmas.

I think most of us in this.

Room are pretty aware of that fact.

If you're not aware of that fact.

Surprise yesterday is Christmas, right?

And so we had friends, family around and they probably spent the day they watched Christmas shows movies.

They sang songs they probably had that God had a really great meal, exchange some gifts, and all these things.

You probably have Christmas cards hanging welcome.

In a stocking or on a border or some sort of way that you collect them and you look at them and they're beautiful.

They're nice and they're pretty, and they say really nice, sweet emotional things, right?

You probably have bonuses for unto us and dot dot dot, because no one seems to remember what.

Happens after for unto us at least at Hallmark.

They don't know what happens after that, right?

So you've got some of those.

You probably have a beautiful scene of inactivity right there where Jesus is this perfectly, this this perfect little innocent child that doesn't cry it doesn't?

You know, screaming

Doesn't eat and just asleep and a major.

Right, I probably have that.

Very it looks after having a child.

That's great, you know her hair is not matted with sweat.

Yeah, she looks fun.

She looks great writing the shepherds that probably showed up and and somehow along the way they found.

A rest stop and shop showered and got dressed and they look great like love.

All of these things.

But I started.

Thinking a little bit about.

What what does Christmas really mean, right?

And when we think about Christmas, what?

Do we think about?

And normally that it's always.

Yeah, well to use a line from a comedy from Will Ferrell.

It's always about the.

Baby Jesus is it?

It's always about baby Jesus.

And I think we like the infants.

Because we can.

Control the Internet.

Right, I think we like the concept of this perfect baby that doesn't cry and doesn't really eat and doesn't serve itself because it's just not natural.

But there's more.

There's more going on there.

Blue Chapter 2 actually tells us that they have a host sane and praised that this.

Day had come.

Which brings the group to the big point that I wanted to make for today.

And this actually comes from our text, which oddly enough, was John the Baptist father that was singing it about his son.

But the big query I wanted to make is simply this.

Is that if we're?

Called to serve God in holiness and righteousness, which if you are following Christ through, called to serve God, and holding it for righteousness.

If you're called to serve.

God in.

Holiness and righteousness.

They're called the prison, but how?

We praise God.

How we praise God matters because we're called to serve him and holiness and righteousness and and that's.

What I think this passage.

Shows us.

So as usual we.

Take it to step by step.

45 grades and we're going to go through what is known in our Catholic circles as they've been adeptness, right, which is Benedict. This just simply means.

Bless it be.

Right, so there's your Latin lesson for the month.

Right, so the villages is person B, so yeah.

This is Zachariah now.

It's delivered his John with his father.

Now he's an old man.

He is a priest of the tribe of Levi and he goes into the temple to the inner sanctum.

There and he has a vision and he is told that his wife Elizabeth is going to bear a child and he says that can't be.

Because she's old and I'm.

Old and things.

Just don't work like that.

It did work like that and Elizabeth.

Has a child.

But a nerd proved to Zacharias that the.

Vision was real he.

Couldn't talk.

He went mute.

John is bored.

Everyone in the house and what do you mean, Angel Zachariah or some other name?

And Elizabeth said no, he's going to be joined and everyone has said.

His name can't be John because there's no one in our family made John you.

Can't do that right?

Which is it brings up a.

Really interesting point.

What we mean when children matters right it?

It just does because it tells a story.

It tells its story, their gods, faithfulness in your life or tells the story of your history, of their family or really hopefully it tells both stories.

About how God has been faithful to his home, how he has been faithful to himself through the history of your family.

So if you put.

John, so you know Zacharias pulls out the post it note and he writes his name is John.

My God dad has said the head of the phone and I said it doesn't.

Bother with anyone else says.

His name is going to be joined.

And then suddenly his mouth was open and he was able to talk.

Now you would think after not being able to talk for a while, he would have a lot.

Of things to say right?

But he doesn't.

He goes right into this song.

And if you look through the Old Testament, you.

Can see pictures?

Of psalms other than you know the big Book of Psalms when God.

Did something amazing.

People praised him for it.

The Song of Hannah the song Mary Merriam.

The Song of Moses.

People praised him for it.

Then you have.

150 other songs in one book.

Known as the Psalms.

Word David, praise God or whatever.

So the first word, like look at this I can talk again now let me.

Tell you all.

The things I want.

To say, he said.

Here, that's going to.

Happen, so here's here's where we started, 1st 67. So if we're to serve God and holiness and license, then how we praise that matters. The first thing I.

Want to point?

Out to you.

It's people who praise God.

But it's who?

Praises God also that matters.

1st 67 says this.

And his father, Zacharias, was filled with the Holy Spirit prophesied, saying no.

We already have in the first part.

A blue chapter, one that Zachariah is dead.

So why does it tell us here that Zachariah is the one?

That's crazy?

Exactly why is the one that's singing the song Zachariah is the one.

That the holy.

Spirit came on right?

Because you think.

Anybody can just sing the song and that's true.

They could.

But here's what's important about this.

Who praises God, matters sacrifices the head of the household.

He's the father.

He's the.

Dad, he's the spiritual leader of the house, right?

And so it's him that prayers.

One of the biggest roles we have.

As fathers.

Is the T shirt is how he praise God?

One of the biggest.

Roles we have is that is.

To teach our kids how to serve down it.

When the biggest role we have as a dad is to teach our kids what Scripture actually says, right?

Because as the father went ahead of the household and we could just abdicate that role.

Like too often in today's world, we abdicate that well, we abdicate that role in loans, and it's easy to do because moms are home and in my in my area of life, that's going to happen when I go overseas, right?

But at the same time, it's still my role.

It's easy to a church and just advocate that.

So listen, I'm I'm not going.

To worry about having to teach my kids anything I'm going through with children church.

I'm listening.

To you through.

I mean something that you can write and and some of those.

Things are good.

But this is what I would tell.

You you know you don't.

Need a children ministry?

You don't need a uthm

History because God is giving you one.

It's called the family.

And that's what we're to do see.

Because in the.

Family unit.

What we do is we learn we.

Learn Grace, we learn compassion.

We learn forgiveness and we all of that because we take the time to open up Scripture.

We take the time to expound on it.

We take the time to read it and.

Then we take the time.

To praise and pray together.

And this is what Zachariah is doing.

He's showing the fact that as dad it is his job and his will to lead his family spiritually.

And that's what he's doing here.

So it's people who.

Praise and Luke wants you to understand that it's not just anyone in the.

House because the house.

Has been filled with people or just anyone.

There's John Father Zachariah that's doing it.

His son has just been born, his only son has been born.

It was a child of promise.

The he was promised he was to have this child.

And so he's excited.

He's he's praising God for it, and he said, the only way that's going to sing this song I'm gonna see to God over this greatness of what he's done in.

My life because.

I'm the head.

Of the household.

But then you got something really unexpected.

In verses in verse 68.

Well really 68 through 79 except for one verse.

He praises died for his salvation.

He praises God for the coming Messiah.

There's only one verse where he actually talks about his son.

But he praises.

God and this.

Is what he says in verse 16 says bless the people going out of Israel who has visited and redeemed his people.

And So what John or what Zacharias saying, he had not only #1 praising God, but he opens up with the soul, he said, bless it.

Be for long daughter visual and this is where we get the Latin.

Phrase been addictives

Plus it be the Lord.

God of Israel and he.

Said, who is the author of our salvation?

Who is the girl?

That brings our salvation.

It only comes from God.

It doesn't come from anywhere else, he said.



Press the people, Lord God of Israel.

So this.

Is not just.

Any God this is.

The one and only true living God.

Who's presented himself in three ways.

The father is still in the Holy Spirit.

He is the one true.

Living God, it's not just any other God.

This is what sets the Hebrew guide apart from any of the other false gods.

That they worshipped at the time goes to.

The Old Testament you would.

See the God of pain.

You have all you have, more, you have all those guys right?

And you have.

The Egyptian gods that you see you know.

Of all those things.

What separates the Hebrew God other?

Than being the one.

And true living God.

It's all those other guys that tie to a specific land.

Their land owners.

The Hebrew God is the God over everything.

The Hebrew God, Lord of hosts, Hebrew God is the one true living God that created all things.

The Hebrew God is the one that controls all things and so they said the one body controls all things that one true and living God, he says bluntly, before he had visited and he's redeemed his people.

So what he's?

Saying here is that God is the.

Author of our salvation.

He's visitors, so God in heaven has come down.

To visit us and he's redeemed.

It's not.

It hasn't actually happened yet at this point because Mary is still pregnant with Jesus.

But yet Zachariah says he's visited us and he's redeemed us.

He's not talking about John.

He's talking about the Messiah.

He will call me.

He's so sure of the salvation that God has been promising.

That even though it hasn't happened yet and might as well.

Already have happened.

Because he believed it so.

Much he had that hope, and that's what the writer of Hebrews talks about when he says the hope that.

We have for faith is the substance of.

Things hoped for.

It's not this idea that I want, it's this idea that I already have because I know God is faithful.

And so with Zachariah.

Been faithful for everything.

He's being faithful now that even though the Messiah hasn't come yet, he's really already here and salvation is found only in him.

He's found only in who would become Jesus Christ sale.

He found only in the Messiah.

He found only.

In God.

Because God is the.

Author of Salvation and there's this idea.

Right that we cannot moral ourselves, we cannot will ourselves.

We cannot work ourselves into salvation.

We can moral will work ourselves.

Into being great people and doing great things.

But we can't get salvation.

By how nice of a guy we are.

How nice of a woman we are.

We can be the nicest people on the planet.

The most benevolent people on the planet.

The most gracious people on the planet and outside of Christ were sold in Evolent.

Nice, gracious people going to eternity apart from God.

He says only God is the author of salvation.

He's visited, he's redeemed, and what I love about this phrase, and I you've heard me say this a couple of times.

When you look at the Old Testament.

And you just look at it starting from.

The very beginning.

As soon as Adam and Eve.

Are kicked out of the garden of eating.

Guy tells a servant.

He says this, he says survey a child is coming.

He's going to crush your head.

You're going to bruise his heel.

There's a.

Child of promise.

Coming, and so you look at it.

And if you follow it, you think OK?

Well, here's able.

He's this child of promise.

Then he's not the child of promise.

Then maybe it's sad.

Maybe it's one that maybe it's.

No, no, maybe it's.

Enough and you can go on and on and on, and by the time you get to Malachi and Malachi.

Three where it talks about the day of.

The Lord is coming.

You get to this point like who is this child opponents?

It can be any man.

It has to be God himself, right?

Because that's what the entire book.

But judges teaches us.

The entire book of judges teaches us that even though man came to redeem.

Under the power of God, they all fail.

Y'all couldn't bring us the full redemption because really, as Hebrew says, there's only one man that can do it, who serves as our eternal high priest and our eternal sacrifice at the same time.

Only Jesus Christ only.

God himself, and by the time you.

Get to Luke.

Actually, by the time we get to Matthew.

You should be asking yourself where is this guy and where when is he going to get here to redeem the people.

And he says that right here.

Plus, having a little dot of his role for his visited and.

He redeemed his people.

We're so God in holiness and license, and how we praise God matters.

It praises God because it's people that praise God.

That's why it matters it it matters because it's who we.

Praise the God of visual who has.

Visited and redeemed his people.

But then we're praising God for salvation. What is that cause of salvation? And we see that in versus 6970.

He says.

He is raised.

Like the whole of salvation for us in the House of the servant David, as he spoke by the mouth of the Holy Prophet from a goal.

So the idea of ways about old.

War of salvation.

The House of the servant David.

I love the integer.

You have the Old Testament.

How's the Horn of salvation?

So I will be honest with you.

When I was going through seminary, Hebrew and Aramaic was very hard for me.

Hebrew, Aramaic were crazy.

There's a lot of horns going off.

Hebrew and Arabic were hard for me, and the reason why they were hard for me is because.

Either I'm not gonna say classic is.

Not that not the word I would use.

But I have a pre modern western education.

$A + B + C = d$ .

It's linear, left or right, it's all there.

Is to it simple, right?

Greek was simple for me because if you can understand grammar English grammar you can understand grief 'cause it's all about rules, and they're very definite rules.

You can't break the rules if you break the rules.

It's not grief, something different.

It does not work.

You have to stay within the box when it comes.

To grief right Hebrew.

I'm gay.

I struggle with it and then we can work further with it is because it is not Western, it's Eastern which means  $a + B = C =$  a triangle or circle.

Or the color yellow?

That's the way Hebrew works, right?

And and I struggle with it, but you can have a word for school that could mean stone rock, hard surface Rd, asphalt and space shuttle, a bar of soap.

Or microphone, depending on how it's.

Used in context, right.

And so I I struggle with that and so when I see this phrase and I bring all that up because when I see this phrase is raised up a horn of salvation.

What kind of fool is he talking about, right is?

He talking about.

This horn that they would use like a chauffard that they would use when they would go out of the bottle.

They they would.

The way the shows are people would go out and they would know it's time to fight.

They could barely.

So far they you know this time to go into the temple.

It's all right.

And as I went through that, I kept thinking, well, this is so far if it.

Says trumpet 1.

That means that we had something to.

Do with salvation, right?

If God is doing a show farting so they can come, let's go do this then that's when I have something to do.

For salvation, well that that.

Can't be right.

Because God works in salvation in me on his.

Own right, so that can't be right.

So what kind of horn?

Is he talking about?

Then it dawned on me what he's talking.

About is an animal with a horn.

Right this solitary animal with a horn.

And this is strong animal who can fight.

Right?

And who can defend itself and doesn't need help because he has a horn?

And So what this passage is saying is that he's raised up the Horn of salvation, and this idea of a horn of salvation is strength.

The strength of God is working salvation.

The fierceness of.

God is working salvation.

But it also means that there's gonna be.

A little.

Bit of struggle for that salvation.

And it's probably going to.

Be a little bit of pain.

And it's going.

To be.

Violent for that salvation.

And we know by Fisher that it was.

All of those things.

See, because our salvation was right when.

Jesus died on the cross for us.

Our salvation with Bob, and he decided to cross.

And he.

And he died.

And he decided to the grave for three days.

It's because he was sitting in that way for three days that Paul is able to.

Say in Ephesians that when he ascended he went captivity captive.

And what does?

It mean that.

He led captivity captive well what it means is that as Paul says.

In the feed in chapter six, we wrestle not with flesh and blood, but with the spirit of the air, and so as as crisis ended, he went dead.

He went since he left Demandforce his captive, because he is the horde of salvation.

Right, he's the order salvation, he said in the.

House of the servant David.

So he's raising his horse salvation in the house.

Of the servant David.

This is the first clue if if you're like most of us had just read and can't put things together until the very end of the book, right?

This is the first clue.

Yeah, exactly why he's not talking about Joan.

He's not talking about Joe, exactly.

I did not come from the house.

Just updated.

Zachariah was a Levite because he was a priest.

Matthew lays out pretty clearly.

Jesus comes from the.

House of David David.

Some 18-2 says it like this, but there is my wife and my focus in my religion. My God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

So I'm 132 says it like this. Then I will make the whole this proper. David, I prepared Atlanta for my emergency we see.

That the Messiah is going to come from the House of David.

We see that the.

Messiah is coming.

Out of that War One and it is equal. 2921 says this. On that day I will cost the Horn of a causal horn to spring up for the House of Israel.

Now open your lips among them, and then they.

Will know that.

I am a.

Board so it comes from the house.

Of David this horn.

So this is how we know he's not talking about John.

But then he says this.

Or said he.

As he spoke by the mouth of his holy.

Prophets from a whole.

All of scription.

From Genesis 1 to revelation 22.

All points to Jesus Christ.

It's 1 continuous, interconnected.

Sometimes that salvation is pretty comforting and exciting, and sometimes that salvation is ugly and messy and violent.

But it all points to Jesus Christ.

In fact last week

Pastor James talked about the end.

Of the Book of Luke he was talking about that great.

Scene on the road.

To a maze.

In the Texas and she.

Just opened her eyes.

And showed them.

Show these two deciders, how all scripture.

Pointed to him.

Acts 3:21 Peter says this whoever must receive until the time he was talking, all things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy.

Prophets long ago.

He says it.

Again in second Peter.

3/2 the usual river code predictions of the.

Holy prophets, in the commendable order savior through your.

Apostles Paul says.

In Ephesians 3:5.

That which was not made known to the sons of men and other generations.

Has now been revealed by his Holy Apostles and prophets by the spirit.

And So what the New Testament is telling us what Peter.

And what Paul?

Even Christ himself, at the end of.

Luke are telling us.

Everything in the Old Testament pointing.

To Jesus Christ.

Everything pointed to Jesus Christ.

See, God is the author of our salvation, the cause of our salvation is because God raised him up in the House of David, and it was prophesied from the very beginning.

From Genesis chapter 3.

But I also want to point out.

That Genesis Chapter 3 wasn't.

A fluke that was always the plan.

From eternity past, that was always the plan.

It wasn't that God went.

Now what?

That was always the plan.

So the cause of our salvation is God, the cause of our salvation is Christ himself.



The cause of our salvation is because of really him being the victor.

Over sin and death.

In decay.

There will be one versus 71 through 75 degree. This he said that we should be safe from our meetings and from the hand of all trades to show mercy.

Promise of our fathers and rivers, holy covenants and yoga.

These order our father Abraham, to grant us that we, being delivered from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear and holiness.

So why is this before him all his days?

And this is where that first shipment is is a lot of times I hear people talk about the apostle Paul and how he writes.

Long sentences.

Well, if you're following.

This is the first sentence that he writes, or that he sings.

It's a very long.

Sentence right and?

Actually, I think about it.

Most everybody the New Testament uses really long sentences.

Except for John, he's only way uses short ones.

Really, so he uses a long sentence here, right?

But he says why would we say like?

Why do we say that would skip them too?

Vote 75.

I walked backwards, he said.

Before him all your day, all organs, right.

This is why we're.

Safe one.

Of my favorite verses in all Scripture comes from Ecclesiastes 12.

He says, let's hear the conclusion of the matter.

All that's been said, all done.

Here's the whole point.

Fear God and keep his commandments.

For this is the whole purpose of man.

I I looked at first when people ask me what is our purpose?

Why are we here and?

You can get so many existential.

Questions right and you can always fall into that way.

I think I've said before my very favorite question of the product isn't with the chief aim of mankind.

I well, I think everything kind of comes from that pressure, which is why it's number one.

So you know.

Not because that's the one they thought of first.

But that's the foundational 1, right?

But when they look and they.

Say well where is that?

What's a very easy answer?

Well, an easy answers.

Take them to Ecclesiastes 12.

Here's the whole conclusion, fear God.

And keep his commands.

This is, This is why we're here.

Yeah, do you have to start with?

I wanna meet the fear God and have discussions what it means to keep his commandments right and and really, if you're discerning all of that can point back related, you know the 1st 100 and so questions of the shorter catechism.

Ironically enough, right?

So what we hear?

So this is the whole.

Point right, but now it's joke.

Back up so for.

Something else is that.

We should be saved from arisen from.

The hand of.

All the latest.

It is no secret.

OK.

The Jewish people of the 1st and 2nd century.

We're looking for a political Messiah.

It's no secret that that that shouldn't be startling news to anybody, right?

They were looking for someone that recovery.

That would restore.

The houses they.

They they they look for someone that.

Bring back the king.

They look for this time of peace with all the nations will come to his role and they would sit at the throne with the key and go.

You're so smart, you know everything.

We're going to praise God because.

You're so smart and you're so great and and.

They they thought that might be who it was, and if you read this quickly, you can see that it says that we should be safe for enemies and from the hand of all who hate us and and from a 30,000 foot view, it's sort of like OK. Well, he's talking about political and social and economic stuff, right? But?

That doesn't fight.

What makes sense when you skip ahead?

Down to verse 77.

He said to get knowledge of salvation.

To his people in the forgiveness.

Up there says.

So you know, forgetting substance has.

Very little to do with politics.

In fact, if you follow politics pretty closely.

You know there is.

Don't forgive us.

There was a very prominent.

Politician who recently well not recently but within.

The last 6.

Years said that he didn't need to ask.

For forgiveness upstairs, because he was above that.

So he's.

Clearly not talking about politics.

He's not talking about social economic stuff, he's.

Not talking about cultural stuff.

It's very easy to look back and say.

They missed they.

Missed the Messiah was and if I'd been there, I.

Would have understood, right?

See if Lewis has.

A word for that.

It just escaped me, that's awesome.

It's something about cultural exclusivity, right this?

Idea that you're smarter than later because now you're here and you weren't there.

OK.

But the reality?

Is we miss salvation just as much as the Jewish people?

Yeah, and we really just as much as the Hebrew people the Old Testament.

Because we read Scripture and we see it one way we.

Interpret it one.

Way and we let our emotions and what is happening on the world was having her family was happening in our.

Our stress level.

We let that influence how we read.

Scripture right and and so then we mess it up right?

Which is why.

I would say that it's important.

To go back to.

What you know is the standards.

Because they wrestled with those things.

They fought with those things.

And they're pretty well right.

And so, but he says, so who?

Are these people?

That we that we.

Should be safer and amazing from the hand of.

All the rain as well.

I've heard most of my life I'm.

Sure, you've heard.

It too, maybe even set it right.

Lynn Lovely center.

Hate to say right?

I think I've said it a couple of times.

Yeah, right?

Well love the Sinner.

Hate it.

Sounds really, theologically awesome.

It sounds really often to say that like lookout pious and look at holy look how Sacramento and look how great I am, but but I, I think it going you you poor little wrench and and and I'm going to call you again but I'm just saying, really.

Loving way.

That you know I love you, but you're an absolute scumbag because I love you, but I hate what you do, right?

So you know it doesn't really work like that because they just come off something like that posture.

To be honest with you.

I'm probably going to hear something about using the word church in a sermon that's.

Right so, but that doesn't actually work right so, but this is what we tell you.

One of the most favorite passages in Ephesians is Ephesians 6 and it's.

The armor of.

God right, he said, put.

On a full owner about it.

And you have, like, you know the helmet of salvation.

Had breast plated righteousness or did the sword was so dispirited.

Belt of truth and shoes shorn with the Gospel of peace.

The shield of faith.

You have all those things and.

You have this.

Imagery of this guy that's out on his own, you know?

Ready to fight.

Filipian with all the.

Bad guys, all the people that you love to.

Hate what they do right and what gets missed in that it would.

Be apostle Paul actually runs.

He says God is.

Giving you his own so Umm, by the way, it's dark comma he's giving you his armor so that you can stand because he's delivered you.

Which means he's constantly delivering you from.

The hand of your knees, from the people behave right.

But why does he do that?

It's that little phrase so you can stand so you can.

Stand firm, now you can go do stuff.

Or something?

You can just.

Stand firm and deal with.

It because what does Jesus say in the first part of Revelation to the 711 letters of the church? He says those who persevere to the end. So there's this idea that.

So you know, it's not always going.

To be a fun life.

Things are going to hurt and it's going to struggle. And if you go back to Ephesians chapter 4-5 and six before politicians do this discourse about what it means to have the full armor of God, what is he talking about?

He's talking about.

Marital relationships.

He's talking about the relationship you have with your spouse and how we're supposed to live in that relationship.

With your spouse, he's talking about the relationship you're supposed to have.

With her kids.

And devotion ship, your kids are supposed to have with you.

He's talking about the relationships that you're supposed to have with each other.

Outside of the church in corporate world, in the work world in the business world.

In social world, he's talking about all of these things.

He's talking about relationships.

And then he goes why?

From relationships into the owner of God?

Did he do?

That he does it because we're following people and relationships are messy.

And they hurt and people get frustrated and strain.

There's pain.

And there's anger.

And there's conflict.

Not because that person is just.

Really configuring, but maybe they might be, but there's conflict.

Because of sin in life.

Right when we say what the Sinner hate to say, what we're doing is we kind of find out one specific thing that.

We don't like, right?

What we?

Should do.

Is simply love the Sinner?

And know that God.

Given us the full armor of God to stand firm an example proclaim the transformation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our lives.

He's done that because he says it.

Right here for setting goal that.

We should be safe from enemies.

And from the hand of always see.

Guys always promise of salvation.

So we don't need to.

Platitude, anything we don't need to emotionalize anything.

What we need to do?

Is understand that an unbelieving world is going to act unbelieving?

That's what we need to do.

We need to understand that people that don't follow God's law are going to act like people who don't follow God's law.

And it's our job.

To understand that God has raised up a Hornets salvation from the House of the servant David.

He's done that to deliver us from those who.

Hate us.

Right, because weird to what it is we we set.

It in 1st 75.

To serve him without fear, holiness, righteous before him.

All our days.

And he says.

First, energy to show the mercy promised to our fathers and remember his holy covenant.

See, there's a continuity of the.

Covenant that starts.

Starting in Genesis 1 and continues on it.

The Old Testament has been revealed.

The shadow of the things that were now we see more clearly.

Why because of who Jesus crisis and his?

Fulfillment of the law.

His bring his sending the comforter to inviting our minds.

Right?

And so it's this idea that.

Just because they messed up and.

Sign on.

And just because the Babylonians came in and just because the Romans came in didn't mean that God go well, let's try something new.

That was never the case.

It was always pointing toward Jesus and this idea of remember his holy coming of God remembering his.

Covenant is not so you.

Can say God very well?

What about us?

Right, there's a famous.

Almost famous book of the Bible, so you know there is a famous book of the Bible. There's like 66.

Of them, right?

So one of my favorite prophets of the Old Testament is the Prophet Habakkuk and I love this guy and the reason why I love this guy because he asked a simple question that we all ask God.

We do not know what is going on.

Are you completely?

Unaware of what is happening here, you've forgotten about us, right?

In, in in.

The Cliff notes version, but God says to about because, yeah, I haven't forgotten.

If I tell you you're not going.

To like it.

And how about?

He says no, I need to know because this is going crazy and you know what have you seen?

So what are you doing?

And God says, here's what I'm doing.

I'm sending the Babylonians and they're going to kill most of you and.

Then they're going to take.

The rest of you away so.

You ask, and there's the answer, right?

So it says.

They thought their God remember us.

It's reminding ourselves that God is faithful.

Our faith is in the world, who is faithful.

Our faith isn't in deciding yourself right because we mess up every day we send every day we sing with the.

Things that we know.

What we do we send in the things that we don't know that we do right?

So our faith and our hope is in the salvation of the world.

Who is faithful and he will continue and has helped his holy covenant from word wine from the very first goal, often have a final end of days which hopefully had come soon.

Right?

That is what we learn, for that is what?



We look for.

But then why is the opening sword our Father, David our father anywhere to grant us that we being delivered from the hand of orgones?

And This is why that we might serve him without fear, holiness and righteousness before him.

All of our days, because you're saved because you are a new work.

In Christ Jesus.

You're raised up to be God workmanship, so that God can display his glorious grace, his forgiveness, his compassion in you.

And so that way others.

Can say others can praise God for what he's done in your life as well.

So we're saying not for benefits.

We're saying for the glory of God.

That's why God.

Saved us for his glory so we can praise him all of our days.

And we can serve him without fear.

You ever think how scary is sometimes to share the gospel with other people?

It's nerve wracking.

I get professionally paid.

To do it.

It's nerve wracking.

Because you always go in your.

Mind what does this?

Personal say what you wanna think but you don't think about me.

Only after you.

Know that matter.

Most days I can agree with that.

Actually most most days I could say it really doesn't matter.

There's a few times I'm like.

Man, I think I'm just going to scale it back in little bit and and then maybe I can build a relationship with somebody.

And then as that relationship blooms and blossoms and grows, and then maybe by chance to, you know I'll have the opportunity and.

By some stroke of lightning, he's gonna look at.

Me and say hey Chaplin.

How do I would say?

I'm going to be offering that's actually never happened to me at all.

Usually what happens to me is.

That's cool for you, that's weird.

And I'm going to go now.

That's typically what I get.

But every so often I really thought about what you.

Said right, but.

So we can.

Serve them without fear and by solar power, period.

Then not just coming to church on Sundays and gather input, the Saints, which is a command from God, but certainly without fear is, is that as we're going through our life.

We're living out Deuteronomy 6.

I really love darling.

Have a heart.

Soul and St and then we talk about it from the time we get up and run away.

Going to teach our kids going to shame until the time we go to sleep and then we wake up the next day where?

To start all over again, like.

We have No Fear of.

Way because that because God is safe from the enemy, something those who hates.

Because Jesus said it like that.

You said you love me more than you love anyone else.

It's served me more than you serve me well.

All we won't let.

You follow anyone else and it's.

Hard and it's tough.

That's why we find salvation so.

We can do those things.

Got it.

Let's move on.

Zachariah is praising God for his greatness.

His Holiness he's praising for salvation and we would think after having a soul it would be maybe board for my son.

Thank you for my greatest of my son, that you've got my legacy, my lineages, homework and so on.

The 1st happened is saying is without John at all and he gets the John here.

He says in you child will be called prophet of the.

Most items the 1st 76 in 77.

For even before the vote in the 1st place, given knowledge of salvation to his people and the forgiveness of sins, so now.

Following his son John.

However, John is not the star of these two verses.

It's still.

The Messiah.

Right?

One of the biggest.

Relief even though young people may not understand it.

Now, one of the biggest release that we can give to our sons and daughters is to tell them that the future does not rest on them.

One of the greatest things we can.

Do for our sons and daughters is to tell them.

That the success or failure of.

International, national, local, whatever is on them and it's up to them to make the world a better place.

We stopped telling.

Our kids that we actually believe them overburden.

Is not theirs to bear.

Right and you said that you're.

Supposed to say those things on commencement day.

And stuff like that, but you shouldn't.

Say those things.

Right because?

Says you child will be called the Prophet, the.

Most high you will go before the Lord prepares.

Away, So what?

Zachariah is saying is like John listen your.

Profit, but you're not the final child of promise.

You are a promised child.

And you are not the child promise.

And there's a difference between those two things.

Well, I think it's fascinating is he says in verse 76 the new child will be called the Prophet most high and this is not for him or anyone else.

To get confused.

It is in earlier in Luke, verse 32, like Gabriel tells, Mary said that the child would be great.

Be called the son of the most high.

God is not the Messiah.

He's the one that's proclaimed in the Messiah scope.

Simply, that's simple.

Well, it should be simple.

Then he goes.

On you'll be calling problems how you will go.

Before the Lord prepares ways to get.

Knowledge of salvation.

His people in the forgiveness of.

Sins, and this is the this.

Is what the Prophet Malachi spoke in Malachi Chapter 3 says, Behold, I send my messenger.

He will prepare the.

Way before me.

And the Lord whom you seek will.

Suddenly come to his temple and the messenger of his covenant, who you delight?

Behold, he is coming in sales billboard.

And so there's.

This idea that before that final terrible judgment day of award.

A prophet's gonna come so that prophet did come. His name is John the Baptist. He's the last of the Old Testament prophet. The last of the Old Testament prophets and bridges. That gap from the old to the new.

He says that day you were waiting for that day.

You were learning for that day.

Then you said God is going to come and make everything.

Right, it's coming and it's here, it's.

Not good, it's not what you expect.

It's about knowledge of salvation and the forgiveness of sins.

Mark said it like this in Mark chapter.

One he quotes.

The prophets since the beginning of the Gospel, Jesus Christ, son of God, which by the way side note when people tell you.

That the hidden gospel.

Of Mark, where Mark doesn't actually come out and say that Jesus is Christ.

It's if it goes one right so?

Mark says it very plainly verse one.

Since the beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, son of.

God as is.

Written as a prophet.

Behold, I send my messenger before your face.

Who will prepare your way so before we face this idea that God himself is coming, the voice of one final goodness prepared the way the world make his past free and John appeared baptizing wilderness.

They're proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, so this is exactly what John is doing.

John, is that Prophet Zachariah understands that he's going to be called with God.

He is called the guy he's gonna.

Do great things.

For God, but he is not the Messiah.

He's talking about forgiveness.

He's teaching forgiveness.

He's teaching repentance, but he's not the one that actually gives the forgiveness.

We're sharing the gospel and we're proclaiming Christ, we're not proclaiming the gospel of us.

OK.

Only the gospel.

Of Christ, we're giving them the knowledge of salvation.

We're giving them the knowledge of forgiveness and to be cross about it.

It's really happy always.

Here to do whatever the Holy Spirit.

Is going to do.

Right, there's no amount of persuasion that you can give that's gonna redeem someones heart.

I tried and I'm sure many in this room have tried as well and it doesn't work.

And you won't find it.

That's the more absurd I.

Seem to sound.

And I like to think.

I'm a pretty smart dog.

We're only gay.

The knowledge of salvation and in knowledge of forgiveness in what to make.

His paths straight so that way.

When the Holy Spirit does come in, we pray that he does come into someone's life.

They their eyes are open.

We had a great testimony recently.

Of someone who prayed and and proclaim the gospel over and over and over again and slowly and surely over years, Holy Spirit chipped away somewhere that level until finally.

Path is made clear.

That was an awesome testimony was an awesome day.

Was an awesome moment and all of heaven rejoiced over that moment.

Then he goes on.

He's gonna leave John again and go.

Back to the Messiah.

In verses 78 and 79.

That's why I tell you our praises to.

Guide start with God.

It is my God.

78th of the 9th is because of the tender mercy of her God, whereby the sunrise she'll visit us from on high to give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death that guide our feet in the way of peace.

That idea of.

The tender mercy of.

God, it's only used one other place in the New Testament, and Paul it uses it in Colossians 3:12, says put on there as God chose him.

Unholy, beloved, compassionate hearts.

That idea, tender mercy is that emotional seat of God.

Or his heart breaks.

Over those two.

But getting his justice.

Those who are not redeemed are those who holiday.

Uh, I'm I'm fine.

I'm fond of saying that.

When Jesus separates the sheep from the goats, go to study come she?

My sheep hear my voice.

But sometimes it takes a minute.

For the sheep, hear the voice.

But goats don't become sheep.

Right?

So this idea this compassionate this this emotional seat of God for his his salvation to go throughout over here.

But then he says this this kind of.

Weird day.

Says we're about the sunrise.

She'll visit us.

From on high.

So I'm just gonna say this out loud right here.

The sunrise.

And visit them on high.

So it's all high.

Heaven himself.

This is not talking this 'cause this is the 26th. This is not talking about the.

Christmas start just so you know that it's it's not.

I actually got asked us a couple weeks ago.

Hey, so this versus.

It I'm like no it it has no no no.

Sometimes I just just go just.

No, it's fine.

Go away right.

This is what I.

Would say it says.

There's a profit in numbers, they bail.

Who's actually not a real good dude?

Actually it's he did a lot of wrong things.

In fact, he's never really.

Talked well at all.

At at all.

We talked about in Revelation is a really bad guy.

He's talked about throughout.

Everyone else is a really bad guy, got himself, sees him and says listen.

You need to.

Stop your doing any further.

I'm free.

Any makes the donkey talk which.

Is an amazingly weird story, but it's it's actually an amazing story when you look at it, but yet somehow bone comes up with this.

In numbers Chapter 24 and.

'cause every word for law even the wrong.

Guys get a right.

Sorry there was a rabbit, almost chase, but we're going to let.

That one run away members.

2417 says this.

I see him, but not now I've been holding, but not here.

He's talking about Christ.

She notice, he says a star shall come out of Jacob, and the Scepter shall rise out of Israel, and she across the forehead of Moab, or break down all the.

Cells of shot.

I don't think Bale knew he was talking.

About Jesus Christ.

But we were saying that there's a star.

Coming, that's gonna shine.

Ephesians 5 Paul says it like this or anything that becomes visible as light.

Therefore it says awake, O sleeper and.

Rising dead for.

Christ will shine on you, Peter says in second Peter 119 and we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed.

To which you will do all the pay attention as a lamp shining in a dark place until the day dawns and the morning Star allies is in your hearts.

'cause we talk about the light of Christ that shines in our light that shines in our darkness.

And we should glorify God.

Because it's not what salvation is.

See the mother God.

In placing it and have it wash.

Over you.

And feeling that forgiveness of sins that redemption, that justification, and knowing that you.

Are new creature.

That is now being conformed to the.

Image of Christ.

And now you understand what it means to be transformed.

And not being informed as well would be transformed by the renewing of.

Your mind so you can show him that perfect and whole acceptable.

And this is what he says, he says because of the tender mercy of God, whereby this Sunrise show business from God himself is going to say God himself will save us.

To give white those who sit in.

Darkness and the shadow of.

Death to Gadafi into the way of peace.

So Model 17 says some sat in darkness and.

The shadow of death prisoners.

In Affliction in ours.

And then Paul says the second Thessalonians, 35 middle Lord, Direct your hearts.

The love of.



God to the steadfast, so direct your hearts, how does he?

Direct us by shining his light.

All of us.

And then of course the famous.

Verse from Isaiah Chapter 9.

But some people.

Know is a famous line from Handel's Messiah.

But the people who walk in darkness have seen a great line.

And those who dwell in the.

Land of Deep darkness, the.

Light on them has shown.

See, we're called.

We are called to serve God and holiness and righteousness without fear.

And since we're.

Called to do that.

How we praise God?

Zachariah praise God with his son.

Lord, but notice he.

Didn't praise God for the legacy of his family.

He praised God for the blessings in his family.

All those things are true and their their God is blessed him.

But what did he praise God for more after the birth of John?

Praise God for God.

Praise God for his salvation.

We're gonna serve God in righteousness and holiness.

And without fear.

Then let's praise God for being faithful.

Let's pray together.

Have a God thank you for your goodness and grace.

Thank you that you loved.

Us enough.

To shine your light on us.

So here, now as we continue and saw.

Lighter hearts line always.

In Jesus name.