

Sermon Handout
Sunday, December 8, 2024
Central Church of Christ

Songs of Christmas: A Song of Salvation
By Paul Webster

Main Points:

1. **PRAISE God as we move from doubt to faith.** Zechariah's doubt led to silent reflection and then faith. Seeing God's discipline as love can move us to deeper faith.

2. **THANK God for redeeming us by His strength.** Zechariah praised God for redeeming His people. Our redemption comes when we accept Jesus as Lord and Savior.

3. **SERVE serve God when we are freed from fear.** Zechariah proclaimed God's rescue of His people from oppression and fear of their enemies. In Christ, our eternity is secure and we no longer need to fear the darkness of this world because our hope is secure.

4. **SEEK God when He brings light to the darkness.** Zechariah's son John would shine light on the path of salvation through Jesus Christ. Like John, we can point others toward Jesus and walk by the light of His Word.

Bottom Line: God brings light to darkness when our hope is in His promise.

Remember: We live in a dark world, but Jesus brought light into the world. The Gospel provides hope beyond this life and world in eternity with Christ. Christ brought salvation to the world through the Cross, putting God's power to atone for sin on display, and through the Resurrection, putting God's power over death itself on display.

Family Discussion Questions:

1. How did Zechariah's faith journey take him from doubt to faith? How has silent reflection and even God's discipline helped you encounter and grow in Christ more?

2. What does the "horn of salvation" symbolize, and why is it significant?

3. How can we find hope in Jesus during difficult and dark times?

4. In what ways can we share the light of Christ with others in our community this Christmas season and beyond?

Scripture References: Luke 1:67-79; John 1:4-5,9; Ephesians 1:18-21; Hebrews 2:14-15; Hebrews 11:1

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