

Luke 1:57-80 Visited by the Lord

How can you be free?

In Christ, God has visited His people with redemptive mercy.

- “Redeemed” is literally “performed redemption,” reminding us that biblical redemption is not man getting a second chance to get it right, but God rescuing man from his sin and inability.
 - “Horn” is the weapon of animals, like the wild ox, to defend against predators and to defeat competitors. This portrays Christ militaristically winning our salvation.
- 1) God visits His people according to His promise and eternal purpose (1:70, 72-73).
 - a) Prophesied: “As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from of old” (v. 70)
 - b) Promised: “the mercy promised to our fathers” (v. 72a)
 - c) Covenanted: “to remember His holy covenant, the oath that He swore to our father Abraham” (vv. 72b-73)
 - d) As a Christian, you are not an afterthought to God. He ordained You to be His from before the foundation of the world.
 - e) God’s good purpose for you is not thwarted by evil or diminished by time. He has sworn by Himself; and He cannot lie (Heb. 6:13-20).
 - 2) God visits His people to deliver them from their enemies (1:71, 74a).
 - a) Saved from Enemies: “that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us” (v. 71); “that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies” (v. 74a)
 - i) Paganism: More a deliverance from Pagan influence than from merely political domination.
 - ii) Spiritual Wickedness: “But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you” (Luke 11:20).
 - iii) Sin: “the forgiveness of their sins” (v. 77)
 - b) God is not indifferent to your plight.
 - i) Humanity in its hostility to God and His people
 - ii) Spiritual wickedness
 - iii) Your own sin
 - 3) God visits His people so that they might serve Him (1:74b-79).
 - a) “might serve Him” (v. 74b)
 - i) Uninhibited by External Threats: “without fear” (v. 74b)
 - ii) Uninhibited by Internal Affections: “in holiness and righteousness before Him all our days” (v. 75)
 - b) The Church inherits the prophetic office of a witness for Jesus Christ that we see in the Spirit-filled John, son of Zechariah.
 - i) Gospel Forgiveness: “to give knowledge of salvation to His people in the forgiveness of their sins” (v. 77)
 - ii) Gospel Hope: “to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death” (v. 79a)
 - iii) Gospel Life: “to guide our feet into the way of peace” (v. 79b)