

Luke 1:5-25, 57-66
"God's Loving Discipline and Gospel Grace!"
(pt. 3)

INTRO: Consider the Gospel According to Isaiah (1:18; 53:1-12; 55:1-3)

Divine forgiveness is complete and total (Rom. 8:1),
but it does not necessarily eliminate the *temporal* consequences of all our sins.

Over the past few weeks we have uncovered the *meaning* (2 Tim. 2:15) and have considered some of the *practical implications* of Luke 1:5-25 using the following *four headings*:

1) A Believing Remnant (*Luke 1:5-6*).

In Luke's opening two chapters God uses very ordinary people as He directs the affairs of redemptive-history.

2) The Barrenness Dilemma (*Luke 1:7*)

Every story has a crisis. Z and E were unable to conceive and were now too old to have children. Is anything too difficult for God? (Luke 1:37; Jer. 32:27).

3) The Gospel, before the Gospel, before the Gospel (*Luke 1:8-17*)

After 400 years of silence heaven announces glad tidings of great joy!

4) A Crisis of Faith (*Luke 1:18*).

Even mature believers have weak moments wherein they succumb to sin and unbelief.

5) _____ (Luke 1:19-23)

6) _____ (Luke 1:24-25)

For Further Reflection/Application:

*Have all of your transgressions and sins been washed clean in the blood of the Lamb?
(Meditate on the wonder of Isaiah 1:18; 53:1-23; and 55:1-3)*

What did the preacher mean when he made a distinction between the eternal consequences of sin and the temporal consequences of sin?

Some/many of the religious friends of Zacharias and Elizabeth assumed their barrenness was a sign of Divine displeasure (see Luke 1:24-25; last sermon)- when it was not (see Jn 9; Job 1-2). Having said that, sometimes our trials and difficulties are part of God's loving correction (note Hebrews 12:4-11). Do you evaluate your walk with God when the Lord allows trials to come your way?

God demonstrates his love to us through the use of correction- ask another Christian to share a personal example to support this biblical assertion.

To not fully believe God's Word (all of it) is no small sin. What portions of Scripture are struggling to receive in faith right now? What portions of God's Word does the world want Christians to abandon in the name of "progress" and/or "tolerance?"

How do sermonettes for Christianettes proliferate neophyte Christians? (note 2 Tim. 4:1-5; Heb. 5:12-14; Eph. 4:11-16).

The God of amazing grace has shown great favor to all of His redeemed sons and daughters. Thank God for the specific and personal blessings that have been poured out on you and your family this year.

Related Songs:

*Blessings- Laura Story
How Firm a Foundation
Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus
The Lord Our God- Shane and Shane
Trust in You- Lauren Daigle
Thou You Slay Me- Shane and Shane*

Related Biblical Texts:

Luke 1:5-25; 16:27-31; Mark 8:11; Proverbs 19:21; Isaiah 14:27; 46:10; Hebrews 11:1-6, Hebrews 12:5-11; Romans 5:3-5 8:1, 28-29