



Rhythm OF WORSHIP

A W O R S H I P L E A D E R ' S

Weekly Devotional

Monday Dec. 1 - Sunday Dec. 8, 2019

Zechariah and Gabriel

Theme for Sunday

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses...

Luke 1:5-25

In the book of Luke, he writes about the meeting between Zachariah and the angel Gabriel. A few verses later, Luke writes of the meeting between Mary and Gabriel. It's clear that Luke is comparing and contrasting the two meetings. Mary is a relatively unknown, young and single woman. Zachariah is an older, married temple priest. What's also different is their responses to unbelievable news. Zachariah's response is disbelief. Mary's response is of agreement and for God's will to be done. Both ask how the angel's words can be possible. But something must have been different about Mary's, because the angel responds graciously. Zachariah on the other hand, receives a temporary rebuke of blindness. Despite their differences, God still works through both Zacharias and Mary to bring about His great plan and purpose.

Reflections

* What do I need to repent of this week?

* What feels too heavy to carry this week?

* When God speaks to me, is my response Mary-like or Zachariah-like?

* One thing I feel God is nudging me towards right now is...

* I am honestly fine with God having His will done in my life, no matter what that means. True or False?



Prayer

O CHRIST,

All thy ways of mercy tend to and end in my delight.
Thou didst weep, sorrow, suffer that I might rejoice.

For my joy thou hast sent the Comforter,
multiplied thy promises,
shown me my future happiness,
given me a living fountain.

Thou art preparing joy for me and me for joy;
I pray for joy, wait for joy, long for joy;
give me more than I can hold, desire, or think of.
Measure out to me my times and degrees of joy,
at my work, business, duties.

If I weep at night, give me joy in the morning.
Let me rest in the thought of thy love, pardon for sin, my title to heaven,
my future unspotted state.

I am an unworthy recipient of thy grace.
I often disesteem thy blood and slight thy love,
but can in repentance draw water from the wells of thy joyous forgiveness.

Let my heart leap towards the eternal sabbath,
where the work of redemption,
sanctification, preservation,
glorification is finished
and perfected forever,
where thou wilt rejoice over me with joy.
There is no joy like the joy of heaven,
for in that state are no sad divisions, unchristian quarrels, contentions, evil designs,
weariness, hunger, cold, sadness, sin, suffering,
persecutions, toils of duty.

O healthful place where none are sick!
O happy land where all are kings!
O holy assembly where all are priests!
How free a state where none are servants except to thee!
Bring me speedily to the land of joy.

taken from "The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotions"

SONGS AND ART

1. COME BEHOLD THE WONDROUS MYSTERY

"He the theme of heaven's praises robed in frail humanity"

3. O PRAISE THE NAME

"The angels roar for Christ the King"

2. JOY TO THE WORLD

"Wild fields and floods, rocks hills and plains repeat the sounding joy"

4. O COME TO THE ALTAR

"Jesus is calling"

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