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Israel's Hope In Luke/Acts

The Consolation of Israel

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May 3, 2020

An Angelic Announcement of Salvation

Luke 1:30-33 (NASB)

The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and **you shall name Him Jesus**. He will be great and will be called the **Son of the Most High**; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and **He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.**"

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A Spirit-Filled Prophecy of Hope

Luke 1:67-71 (NASB)

And his father Zacharias **was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied**, saying: "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, For **He has visited us** and accomplished redemption for His people, And has raised up a horn of salvation for us In the house of David His servant—As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from of old—**Salvation FROM OUR ENEMIES, And FROM THE HAND OF ALL WHO HATE US;**

- **Luke reveals that Zacharias prophesied by the Holy Spirit—he spoke the truth from God**

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Future Hope For Israel

Luke 1:72-75 (NASB)

To show mercy toward our fathers, And to remember His holy covenant, **The oath which He swore to Abraham our father**, To grant us that we, being rescued from the hand of our enemies, Might serve Him without fear, In holiness and righteousness before Him all our days.

- **The oath to Abraham is found in key passages in Genesis: Gen. 12:3; 15:5, 13-18; 22:16-18**
- **David and salvation echoes OT promises: 1 Kings 2:45, 2 Sam. 7:8-13; 2 Sam. 7:18, 19a**

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A Preview of Salvation

Luke 2:25, 26 (NASB)

And there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; and this man was righteous and devout, **looking for the consolation of Israel**; and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

- **"Consolation" is *parakle_sis* and can also be translated "comfort"**
- **Simeon is a witness to salvation that Luke cites to preview key themes of Luke/Acts**

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Light to Gentiles and Glory of Israel

Luke 2:29-32 (NASB)

"Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, According to Your word; For my eyes have seen Your salvation, Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, **A LIGHT OF REVELATION TO THE GENTILES, And the glory of Your people Israel.**"

- **Luke does not exclude future hope for Israel even as he previews the Light to Gentiles!**
- **"Light" theme: Acts 26:18**

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Present Rejection Future Blessing

Luke 13:34, 35 (NASB)

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, just as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not have it! Behold, your house is left to you desolate; and I say to you, you will not see Me until the time comes when you say, 'BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!'"

- Luke 19:37, 38 shows that it was "disciples" who said this, not Jerusalem's leadership

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The Great "Until"

Luke 21:24 (NASB)

and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

- The "times of the Gentiles" is the church age
- Luke 22:16-18 also uses "until" in reference to the future kingdom

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The Restored Kingdom: When?

Acts 1:6, 7 (NASB)

So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority;"

- There is no future time or epoch for a non-event!
- See Luke 22:28-30 for the future kingdom and Luke 24:21 for their hope for Israel
- Acts 1:8 will show their present role

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"Until" the Future Restoration

Acts 3:19-21 (NASB)

"Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you, whom heaven must receive until the period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time."

- Jesus reigns in heaven "until" a future period
- The restoration is predicted in OT prophecy

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