

# Do You Trust Me?

Luke 1:5-38 - Sunday, January 12, 2020

## Probing the Passage

### Everyone Involved is Building Trust:

- Luke, as narrator, is \_\_\_\_\_ trust.
- Gabriel and God asks for trust.
- Zechariah is asked to trust.
- Mary trusts..

### Question before God:

- Can we \_\_\_\_\_ God?
  - ◊ Elizabeth and Zechariah have been righteous.
  - ◊ And they have earnestly and faithfully prayed for something.
  - ◊ And, seemingly, nothing happens.
- What does her community think?
  - ◊ “Who sinned, this man, or his parents?”

### Incense:

- The Psalmist prays that his \_\_\_\_\_ go up like incense.
- John the Revelator sees \_\_\_\_\_ offered in the form of incense.
- What has Zechariah been doing these many years?
  - ◊ Praying!
- So, of course God’s messenger would come, would answer, next to prayer.

### “Your Prayer Has Been Heard”:

- We have to slow down here.
- The God of the Universe \_\_\_\_\_ YOUR prayer.
- God’s answer may or may not look like you expect it to.
  - ◊ The timing of his answer might seem crazy.
- But your prayer has been heard.

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### **The Connection:**

- Samson is to be “a nazirite (one consecrated) to God from birth”.
  - ◊ So his mother was to abstain from wine and strong drink.
- Hannah’s \_\_\_\_\_ to have a child is she will set him before God “as a nazirite (one consecrated)” and so he will abstain from wine.
  - ◊ His mother specifically says she has “drunk neither wine nor strong drink”.
  - ◊ When John is due to be born, he must never drink wine or strong drink.

### **Holy Nazirite!**

- Nazirite specifically means one separated or consecrated.
- God institutes this in Numbers 6.
  - ◊ Nazirites have three restrictions.
  - ◊ There is no specific blessing tied to it.
- In Numbers 6:5, Nazirites are called to be \_\_\_\_\_.

### **John’s Call:**

- John is called to be a Nazirite.
- To be a Nazirite is to be holy.
- Another of the promises is that John will be “great in the sight of the Lord”.
- John’s \_\_\_\_\_ is tied to his holiness.

### **Forerunner:**

- John is a predecessor, in some sense, of \_\_\_\_\_.
- “Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; for it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.” (1 Peter 1:15-16)

### **How am I Holy?**

- How does what I do, or don’t do, reflect the Holiness that God calls me to?
- This looks different for different people and even in different seasons.
  - ◊ Eat or Drink
  - ◊ Media Consumption
  - ◊ Use of Time
    - ⇒ Toleration of Busyness

### **To Make Ready a People:**

- John is called to make a people ready for the Lord!
- Fundamentally the call, the trajectory of John’s life is all about \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord.

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### **Zechariah's Question:**

- Prove it!
- When do we ask people to prove something?
  - ◊ If I tell you the sky is blue?
  - ◊ If I tell you I know how to read?
  - ◊ If I tell you I know how to juggle while jumping on a bouncy ball?
- We only ask for proof when we, at some level, \_\_\_\_\_ the speaker.

### **Take Aways:**

- John is called to similar things as us.
  - ◊ He is the first person we meet born in light of Jesus.
  - ◊ He is called to be Holy.
  - ◊ He is called to proclaim the Lord.
- God's response to doubt is gracious.

### **Differences:**

- John is \_\_\_\_\_ in the eyes of the Lord, Jesus is just great (Only ascribed to God).
- John will be filled with the Holy Spirit for himself, Jesus will bring it for others.
- Where John is preparing the way for the Lord to move, Jesus is the Lord himself!

### **Beginning of the Kingdom:**

- Jesus will be:
  - ◊ Great
  - ◊ Son of God
  - ◊ Eternally Reigning
- Do You Believe?

### **Luke Understood:**

- Luke is writing in a world where he doesn't physically see Jesus.
- And yet, he feels comfortable recording that Jesus' kingdom will never end.

### **Difference in Questions:**

- Mary's question is primarily a question of \_\_\_\_\_.
- It's like a hard math problem. The question of how is actually because you do believe me.

### **Holy Spirit Overflowing:**

- The Holy Spirit is not only filling the baby (as with John), but the mother as well.

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**This is It!**

- Nothing is impossible with God!
- We see this in the birth of Isaac and John. Both of whose parents had likely given up before God intervened.

**Do We Trust Him?**

- God has said some seemingly impossible things.
  - ◊ Your sins are forgiven on account of his name.
  - ◊ You know him who is from the beginning.
  - ◊ You have conquered the evil one
- Do you trust Him?

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