

God VS Everything

5 In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah, and he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. **6** And they were both righteous in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and righteous requirements of the Lord. **7** But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both advanced in years. **8** Now it happened that while he was performing his priestly service before God in the order of his division, **9** according to the custom of the priestly office, he was chosen by lot to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and burn incense. **10** And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of the incense offering. **11** And an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the altar of incense.

Luke 1:12-17

12 And Zechariah was troubled when he saw the angel, and fear fell upon him. 13 But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will call his name John. 14 And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. 15 For he will be great in the sight of the Lord; and he will not drink any wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit while yet in his mother’s womb. 16 And he will turn many of the sons of Israel back to the Lord their God. 17 And he will go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers back to the children, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

Luke 1:12-17

18 And Zechariah said to the angel, “How will I know this? For I am an old man and my wife is advanced in years.” 19 And the angel answered and said to him, “I am Gabriel, who stands before God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. 20 And behold, you shall be silent and unable to speak until the day when these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their proper time.” 21 And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and were wondering at his delay in the sanctuary.

Luke 1:18-21

22 But when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. And he kept making signs to them, and remained mute. 23 And it happened that when the days of his priestly service were fulfilled, he went back home. 24 After these days Elizabeth his wife conceived, and she kept herself in seclusion for five months, saying, 25 “This is the way the Lord has dealt with me in the days when He looked upon me to take away my disgrace among men.”

Luke 1:22-25

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Luke 1:19

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Luke 1:20

So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

PHILIPPIANS 2:12-12

I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. And the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

GALATIANS 2:20

What use is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,” and yet you do not give them what is necessary for *their* body, what use is that? Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead by itself. But someone will say, “You have faith; and I have works. Show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works.” You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder. But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works is useless?

James 2:14-20

Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar? You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected. And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “And Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness,” and he was called the friend of God. You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone. And in the same way, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.

James 2:14-20

If there can be one sin more heinous than the unbelief of a sinner, it is the unbelief of a saint. For a saint to doubt God's word – for a saint to distrust God after innumerable instances of His love, after ten thousand proofs of His mercy, exceeds everything.

C. H. Spurgeon

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

Fight unbelief like your life depends on it!

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Fight unbelief like your life depends on it!

1. Study the history of God's ever-faithful relationship with His people.
2. Absorb the goodness and trustworthiness and unfailing nature of God.
3. Take His promises to heart because of WHO they come from.
4. Memorize Luke 1:37: "For nothing will be impossible with God."
5. Notice what God is doing around you and faithfully join Him.
6. Notice what's going on inside you when God gives instruction.