

When God Speaks Luke 3

I. The Silence of God

1. God spoke in the Old Testament
At many times & in many ways – Heb. 1:1
2. His message was often rejected
By all but His faithful remnant
3. No new revelation for about 400 yrs.
Malachi was the last recorded prophet
His message ends with the hope of Messiah
4. God will speak in His Son – Hab. 1:2-3
He will reveal God in His fullness

II. Voice of the Prophet – 3:1-20

1. Prophet was promised in Isaiah 40:3-5
Sent to prepare the way for the Messiah
2. When the Roman Empire ruled – 3:1
Roman rulers would be involved in the outcome
3. High Priests would also have a part - 2
Annas and Caiaphas
4. John came with God's message – 3:2-3
Calling for repentance and genuine faith
5. Message from Isaiah 40:3-5 – 3:4-6
Messiah is coming to restore & bring salvation
6. Baptism: sign of true repentance – 7-9
Faith & repentance must be genuine
Not just to escape judgment
Not just by claiming a link to Abraham
True faith brings transformation
7. Evidence of faith & repentance – 10-14
Selfishness is turned to sharing – 11
Integrity replaces greed – 12-13
Contentment rather than using advantage – 14
8. John's message points to Christ – 15-18
John is not the Messiah – 15-16
Christ is far greater than this prophet – 16-18
His baptism is the true life-changing one
My baptism is external – symbolic
His baptism is internal – transformation
9. Herod put John in prison – 19-20
Rejected John's message
Reproved Herod for taking his brother's wife
All the evils Herod did
Added rejection of God's message

III. Voice of God – 3:21-22

1. As John was baptizing – 21
People were coming to be baptized
In response to John's message of repentance
In response to John's pointing to Jesus
Jesus was also being baptized
In humble obedience – not because of sin
Jesus was also praying
In response to that "the heaven opened"
And God spoke

2. God spoke by sending His Spirit – 22
Holy Spirit descended on Jesus as a dove
Note what John said in John 1:31-34
Sign to John that Jesus is the Messiah
Jesus' ministry would be in the Holy Spirit
3. God spoke in an audible voice – 22
Identity of Jesus is vital so God speaks
"You are my beloved Son; in you I am well pleased"
Only human of which this can be said

IV. Voice of Genealogy – 3:23-38

1. Jesus is true representative of man
Luke traces His line back to David
God promised Messiah would come from David
Luke traces His line back to Abraham
In response to His covenant with Abraham
Luke also traces His line back to Adam
Who was father of all humans
Who was created in God's image
Here referred to as the "son of God"
Jesus is the true perfect "Son of God"
2. All humans are provided for in Christ
God's plan of redemption includes Jews & Gentiles
Messiah is first promised in the garden – Gen. 3:15
Luke takes us all the way back to Adam
Paul makes this connection also
Romans 5:12-19 and 1 Corinthians 15:45-49
3. God's call to us is to believe in His Son
He has spoken it is for us to believe what He said