

ThemeJubilee – Year of Consecration – Passion for GodTopicConsecration – God's End-Times PurposeSpeakerSP Daniel FooDate17 & 18th January 2015

Wessage Summary

LUKE 1:15-17

^{*15} for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born. ¹⁶ He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God.¹⁷ And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

This week's message centred upon the angelic proclamation to Zechariah regarding the soon birth of his son, John the Baptist. While these words were prophetic about the life and ministry of John the Baptist, they also bring relevance to us as 'end time believers'.

FOUR DIRECTIVES

We must reach out to our <u>own</u> people and turn them to the LORD GOD- Luke 1:16

 Timothy 5:8 exhorts us to first provide for our relatives and our immediate family, or else we are worse than an unbeliever. Are we praying and reaching out to our pre-believing family members? Doing evangelism alone can be lonely. We can do evangelism both individually and corporately. To recap, BBTC adopts the principles of evangelism as gathered from Luke 10:5-7,9. We are first to look for men of peace, fellowship with them, meet their felt needs and lastly share the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. This is a relational evangelism.

2. Turn the hearts of the Fathers to their children- Luke 1:17b

"Are you a godly father/mother who care enough to raise your child up in the fear of the Lord?"

As we witness increasing number of broken and dysfunctional families, we see that the root of the issue often stems from the absence of the Father's presence in these families to provide that leadership as the head of the family.

In the story of Hezekiah in 2 Kings 20:13,16-19, Hezekiah was proud and boastful in showing off all the treasures in his country to the foreign envoys. Isaiah then rebuked him and told him that the consequences of his prideful actions would eventually result in his own descendants being taken away as eunuchs to serve in the kingdom of Babylon. Hezekiah's response was shuddering. *"The word of the LORD you have spoken is good, "Hezekiah replied. For he thought, "Will there not be peace and security in my lifetime?"* Hezekiah could not care less about his children and his children's children.

Parenting does not come naturally. It requires intentional careful efforts, with the continual guidance of and reliance upon the Holy Spirit.

3. Turn the <u>disobedient</u> to the wisdom of the just- Luke 1:17c

Don't burn bridges with believers who have fallen away from the faith. Don't give up praying for them!



4. Make <u>ready</u> a people prepared for the Lord- Luke 1:17d

As John the Baptist prepared the people for the coming of Jesus, so we, as end-time believers, need to receive the mandate in the Great Commission to go make disciples of all nations, anticipating the second coming of our Lord Jesus.

How then can we do it?

- Anchor them in the Word for wisdom to grow faith to live in turbulent times.
 - *i.* <u>Know the Word of God</u> Matt 7:24-27 "..But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.."
 - *ii.* Faith inspired by the Word of God Romans 10:17 "Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message and the message is heard through the Word of Christ."
 - *iii.* Walk circumspectly in every issue and situation Eph 5: 15-18 "See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise.."
 - iv. God will make each of our steps firm in these troubled times
 Habb 3:17-19 ".. he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to go on the heights.."

Help them to love God

We need to recognise that our carnal love is incomplete. That is why we need to first tap onto the perfect love of the Father God (1 John 4:18-19). We are impoverished to the degree that we lack in experiencing the love of the Father God.

Facilitate their service unto God

 Cor 15:58, Luke 4:18, Acts 10:38
 God made all of us for a purpose. Are we ready and prepared to arise whenever a need arises in the Kingdom of God?

HOW THEN CAN WE FULFILL THE PURPOSE?

3 QUALITIES OF THE END-TIME BELIEVERS!

- 1. Know that we are <u>significant</u> in the eyes of the Lord- Luke 1:15b
 - i. We must be rested in the Father's love (1 John 2:15-16)
 - ii. We must be perfected in the Father's love (1 John 4:18)
 - iii. We must deal with personal baggage (Hebrews 12:1)

2. We must be separated- Luke 1:15

In the Bible, God has chosen the tribe of Levi to serve before Him as priests. However, He has also made a way for the other tribes to serve Him and that is by being a 'Nazarite' (Numbers 6) and that is based on the principle of separation.



God has called us to be <u>separated from</u> everything that hinders us from fulfilling His purpose AND to be <u>separated to</u> everything that value-adds to the fulfilment of God's calling.

3. We must always <u>surrender</u> to have the fullness of the Spirit- Luke 1:15c

It is flawed to think that if we give to the Lord something, it meant that we would lose it. However, the Bible tells us that to lose is to gain! (Luke 17:33)

When we learn to hold things loosely in surrender to the Lord, we will be surprised to find that 'when God has it all, we will also have it all'!



Questions

[OUR BEING- OUR INNER LIFE]

Examine yourself based on the 3 qualities of end time believers mentioned by SP. How do you think you would fare?

(Fill In Answer Here)

[OUR DOING- PURPOSE DRIVEN LIFE]

John the Baptist fulfilled the calling God has given him. How are you personally fulfilling the Great Commission that God has mandated us? How ready are you for eternity and to account to the Lord?

(Fill In Answer Here)

START JUBILEE 2015 ARIGHT! Are there any strained relationships that you have within the body of Christ? What steps will you take to reconcile these?

(Fill In Answer Here)