

THE WONDER OF GOD PART I
“WHERE’S THE WONDER?”
LUKE CHAPTER 1-2
SPEAKER: PASTOR SHANE CARROLL
APRIL 10-11, 2021

INTRODUCTION

- Luke’s account emphasizes the wonder of God that occurs through the supernatural.
- Luke introduces us to the work of the Spirit, in people.
- Luke’s gospel is unique. His focus is salvation, the work of the Spirit and the supernatural.
- In Luke, the Spirit is introduced as a primary figure in the gospel story.
- In Acts we see the full release of the Spirit on all people.
- Acts 1:1-5, “...in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”
- Luke is the one gospel writer to introduce the idea of being baptized in the Holy Spirit and *filled* with the Holy Spirit.

I. SUPERNATURAL ORIGINS

- Luke 2:1-7; 1:57 - Two babies conceived supernaturally!
- John the Baptist - Luke 1:5-23; Jesus - Luke 1:30-38
- Both stories tell of the supernatural encounter with the angel Gabriel, Mary, and Elizabeth...who are both overwhelmed by the wonder of God.
- Luke 1:15 - John will be “filled with the Holy Spirit” in the womb.
- Luke 1:35 - Mary will be overwhelmed by the power of Holy Spirit.

II. PROMISE TO PRAISE

- Luke 1-2 - full of Old Testament promises being fulfilled.
- Luke 1:42-45, “Elizabeth...exclaimed to Mary, “...⁴⁵You are blessed because you believed that the Lord would do what He said.”

- Luke 1:67-70, “...Zechariah, was filled with the Holy Spirit...⁶⁸ “...He has sent us a mighty Savior...⁷⁰ just as He promised through His holy prophets long ago.”

III. MIRACULOUS IN OBSCURITY AND STRUGGLE

- As uncomfortable and unpopular as obscurity might be, it is regularly the way the Spirit moves.
- Jesus Himself, nurtures His relationship with the Spirit by His balance of solitude, prayer and public work.
- God’s miraculous work often arrives quietly and silently in places we would least expect.

IV. SALVATION FOR ALL

- Luke 2:25-26; 29-32 - Key for Luke = salvation for all people who come to Jesus.
- The filling and work of the Spirit is always intentional, and always full of purpose.
- Luke 2:25-26, “...a man...named Simeon...was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come...The Holy Spirit...had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord’s Messiah.”
- God speaks to people who are willing to follow His way.
- He speaks to those who are humble enough to listen and wise enough to believe it.

V. THE HIDDEN YEARS

- Luke 2:41-52 - Quiet years are so often the proving ground for life. They were for Jesus as well.
- Little to nothing is known about Jesus’ first 30 years.
- Luke 2:41-52, “... Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and all the people.”
- Jesus said He “must” do His Father’s work.

CONCLUSION

- What is God saying to you?
- John 3:6-7, “...the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. ⁷ So don’t be surprised when I say, ‘You must be born again.’”