

When waiting weighs on you (Luke 1:5:25)

Is God reliable? Does he care about the details of my life?

The kind of questions Luke also wants to give us certainty about

1. Feel the tension: where no change ever seems to happen (v.5-7)

- The political situation

- The religious situation

- The personal situation

- Can you feel the tension?

2. See God's action: God loves to work in such circumstances! (v.8-17)

Zechariah's once-in-a-lifetime opportunity

What is God up to?

"Your prayer has been heard" (v.13) Which prayer?

The significance of John

Malachi 4:5-6

What God loves to do

The OT echoes

3. Learn the lesson: let his Word give us assurance (v.18-25)

Zechariah's response

Even his rebukes are assurances

Let his Word bring you assurance his redemptive purposes will come to pass, and to keep going!