

Christmas Joy

And the "Grinches" who steal it

Part 2

Luke 1:5-23

Matthew Zamudio, Pastor, Windsor Park Baptist Church, Desoto Tx. December 24, 2017. All scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. Pew Bible: Page 1012.

Grinch #1: Misunderstanding

1. *There is Conditional Joy and Certain Joy*
2. *Where Certain Joy Is Found-God's Person, Presence, and Promises*
3. *What Certain Joy Is- Possible, Personal, Permanent, Powerful, & Plentiful*

1. GRINCH #2: DOUBT

He Doubted God's Care

Luke 1:13 (ESV)- 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 shall call his name John.

Luke 1:18 (ESV) And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years."

I John 5:14 (ESV)-And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.

I Peter 5:7 (ESV)- Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

He Doubted God's Word

Luke 1:14 (ESV)-And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth,

Luke 1:19 (ESV)- And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news.

Luke 1:20 (ESV)-And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time

I Peter 3:8-9a (ESV)-But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness...

He Doubted God's Power

Luke 1:13 (ESV)- 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 shall call his name John.

Luke 1:18 (ESV)- And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years."

"For nothing will be impossible with God"
-Gabriel

Doubt Stole Zechariah's Certain Joy

Luke 1:20 (ESV)-And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time

Belief Restored Zechariah's Certain Joy

Luke 1:63-64 (ESV)-And he asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And they all wondered. And immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God.

2. GRINCH #3: DISTRACTION

A. Herod was distracted by possessions, power, and prestige.

Matthew 2:1-3a (ESV)-Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled..

Distraction Stole Herod's Certain Joy

Matthew 2:3 (ESV)- When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled and all of Jerusalem with him.

Here Is The Point: Do not let Doubt or Distraction rob you of your Christmas Joy!