



Logos Class – Christmas 2023 – A New Dawn

Class for Dec 10, 2023

Lesson 1

Logos Class. Mod 5 Room 1

Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ *Dec 10, 2023 – Christmas Story 2023 Pt 1*
- *Dec 17, 2022 – Christmas Story 2023 Pt 2*
- *Dec 24, 2022 – **Christmas Eve**-No class, Only Church Services*
 - *Christmas Day – Dec 25, 2023*
- *Dec 31, 2023 – New Study*

I plan to continue both In-Person and Zoom in 2024

Christmas 2023

- *How are we approaching this study this year?*
 - *2 parts –*
 - *Part one – After Long night – Dawn Breaks– **Luke 1** and Selected OT verses*
 - *Part two –The Christmas Story – **Luke 2** with some prophecy*

I did a prophetic view of Christmas in 2021, if you want to access that lesson. I will send links out this week.

Before we get to today's lesson...Israel Update

- 60+ days into this war. Gaza is being demolished from North to South
- Tunnels, Weapons Caches, and terrorists being eliminated
- High-ranking officials of Hamas are being squeezed South.
- Many Hamas terrorists are giving up and are being taken prisoners back to Israel to face judgment.
- Rockets are still being fired off from South Gaza, Lebanon and Syria
- Rockets and drones are being launched from Sudan, but Israel and the US have taken action. US ships in the Red Sea have been attacked but repelled
- Jews worldwide are facing the fact that those who they thought supported them, actually do not. Antisemitism is a growing cancer in liberal society.
- Church is not immune, and we are seeing the separation of the Sheep and Goats in the church.
- ***Back to today's lesson.***

Did you know...

- *There are over 300 prophecies in the OT and NT regarding the 2 Coming(s) of Jesus.*
- *Over 50 focused on His Birth...First Coming*
- *The rest are about Him and His Second Coming*

I have a table for this reference on the website

I want to tell you a story before we begin



Picture this...

- *Graduated Pearl Necklace*
- *Pearls get larger as you move towards the center of the necklace*
- *Largest Pearl is at the bottom point*
- *Necklace ends rise up to the back of the Neck*

Selected OT Readings – Ps 30:1-5

- I will exalt you, LORD,
for you lifted me out of the depths
and did not let my enemies gloat over me.*
- ² LORD my God, I called to you for help,
and you healed me.***
- ³ You, LORD, brought me up from the realm of the dead;
you spared me from going down to the pit.***
- ⁴ Sing the praises of the LORD, you his faithful people;
praise his holy name.***
- ⁵ For his anger lasts only a moment,
but his favor lasts a lifetime;
weeping may stay for the night,
but rejoicing comes in the morning***

Isaiah 9:2-3

*² The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness, **a light has dawned**.*

³ You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder.

Isaiah 9:6-7

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.*

*And he will be called **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.***

*⁷ Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be
no end.*

*He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.*

*The zeal of the **LORD Almighty** will accomplish this.*

Malachi 4:5-6

⁵ *“See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes.*

⁶ *He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction.”*

Some perspective

The God of Israel had dealt with Israel's stubbornness and unfaithfulness for generations

- *Punished them through outside invaders*
- *Punished them through captivity*
- *Punished them now through silence and barrenness*
- *Malachi – the last book in the OT has many tones of despair and judgment **but ends with a ray of hope for the future***
- ***Before the Day of the Lord, I will send a prophet***

Luke Ch 1:1-5. *How it happened*

*1 Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that **have been fulfilled** among us,*

*2 just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were **eyewitnesses and servants of the word.***

*3 With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to **write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus,***

4 so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

*5 In the time of **Herod king of Judea** there was a priest named **Zechariah**, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; **his wife Elizabeth** was also a descendant of Aaron.*

Luke Ch 1:6-7

⁶ Both of them were *righteous in the sight of God*, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees *blamelessly*.

⁷ **But** they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both **very old**.

A

Western Wall



Luke Ch 1:8-12 ...*A Once in a Lifetime Opportunity*

⁸ *Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God,*

⁹ *he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense.*

¹⁰ *And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside.* ¹¹ *Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense.*

¹² *When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear.*

Luke 1:13-17

13 But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard.

Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John.

14 He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth,

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.”

Luke 1:18-19 Unexpected Responses

¹⁸ Zechariah asked the angel, “How can I be sure of this? I am an old man... and my wife is well along in years?”

*¹⁹ The angel said to him, “I am **Gabriel**. I stand in the **presence of God**, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news.”*

Zechariah asks for a sign...and he gets one...

Luke 1:20-21 Not the Sign he wanted

²⁰ And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time.”

²¹ Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering why he stayed so long in the temple.

Luke 1:22-25 ...*Prophecy coming true*

²² When he came out, **he could not speak to them**. They realized he had seen a vision in the temple, *for he kept making signs to them but remained unable to speak*.

²³ *When his time of service was completed, he returned home.*

²⁴ *After this* his wife Elizabeth **became** pregnant and for five months remained in seclusion.

²⁵ *“The Lord has done this for me,”* she said. *“In these days he has shown his favor and taken away my disgrace among the people.”*

Final thoughts for today

God has been silent for 450 years

Dawn of an era of Redemption

SUN of Righteousness

SON of Righteousness

At a time of God's choosing

Chooses the parents of the Forerunner

The miraculous birth of a son

This Son is special in God's eyes

Fulfillment of Prophecy

Beginning of a New Age of Redemption

In our dark times...remember...Joy comes in the Morning

Next week

- *Pick up the Story Line and the traditional Christmas story.*
- *Add a few OT prophetic verses to better understand the fulfillment*
- *Hopefully, it will prepare you with a deeper wonder and understanding of the True Meaning of this Celebration*

God Bless each of you