

It's all in the preparations:

Luke 2:25-38

³⁴"This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

I. Not So Silent

- A. Greek and Aramaic were the common languages
- B. Roman roads were built
- C. The OT was translated into common Greek

II. The Setting

- A. The establishment of government
- B. Sacrificial System
- C. The divisions and protection

III. The Darkness

- A. Great Greek philosophers – Plato, Aristotle, Socrates, Epicurus, Zeno. Everything begins with humans and ends with humans
- B. Whatever makes you happy
- C. Corruption of the temple tax

IV. The Crucifixion

- A. 300 BC- created by the Persians and perfected by the Romans

B. Created to punish the worst of the criminals

C. Fulfillment of Isaiah 53

But the darkest place was not the world, the darkest place was in the human heart.

God is not silent. Our hearts tuned out God.

V. Prepare your heart for faith

Luke 2:25-32

³⁰For my eyes have seen your salvation.

The problem is not the existence of Jesus, the problem is our hearts tuning out the gentle whispers of God.

VI. Prepare your heart to speak faith

Luke 1:33 -35. ³³The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

VII. Don't let the word silence your faith

Luke 1:36-38. ³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke