**The Rising Sun (Son)!**

**Luke 1:67-79**

One thing you should know about God: He never forgets His promises! When He says something, He means it. And when God gives His Word, He will deliver on it.

Some of God’s promises from the OT:

1. Through the prophet Malachi, God promised to raise up a man who would announce to the world that the Savior had come.

**Malachi 4:5** says, “See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their faithers…”

1. In 2 Samuel 7, Nathan prophesied that a Savior would come from the line of David who would establish His throne forever.

In **2 Samuel 7:12-13** Nathan said to David, “When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the ONE who will build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

1. In **Genesis 12:1-3**, God made a unilateral unconditional promise to Abraham, known as a covenant. God told Abraham to leave his country and go to a faraway land—a land that God would lead him to. Once there, God promised to bless him.

* To make him into a great nation.
* To make his name great.
* God said, “I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you…though your SEED!

1. To make sure Abraham knew that He meant what He said, in **Genesis 15** God repeats his promise. In Genesis 22, God once again repeats His promise and this time He confirms it with an oath.

**Genesis 22:16-18** says, “I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld son, your only son, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore…and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you obeyed me.”

**GOD’S PLAN:**

God’s plan from the very beginning of time was to send a Savior into the world to save us—to rescue us from ourselves. To redeem for Himself a people to whom He would shower with his mercy and forgiveness.

**THERE QUESTIONS:**

1. HOW DID GOD ACCOMPLISH OUR SALVATION?

**ANSWER:** By His power! Look at verse 69. He has raised up a **horn of salvation** for us in the house of his servant David (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago)…

1. WHY DOES GOD WANT TO SAVE US?

**ANSWER:** Because He loves us and He delights in showing us mercy! Look at verses 72-73: God has raised up a horn of salvation…

* To save us from our enemies and from those who hate us, and…
* To show the mercy promised to our fathers
* to remember his holy covenant, the oath he swore to our father Abraham.

1. WHAT IS GOD’S ULTIMATE PURPOSE FOR US?

**ANSWER:** Man’s chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

Look at verses 73-75: “The oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, **might serve him** without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.”

St. Augustine, who lived during the 4th century A.D., said this: *“You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.”*