

Series: From BC to AD

Sermon: Peace on Earth When Your Life Stinks

Bible Verses: Luke 1 and Romans 8:26-31

By: Jeff Piepho

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PROBLEMS:

Zechariah became _____ after receiving the good news that his wife would be pregnant with John, the prophet who would announce Jesus to the world. *Cause of problem: Zechariah's _____ (unbelief).*

When Elizabeth was going to have her baby the neighbors wouldn't even let her _____ John, as God instructed! *Cause of problem: _____ circumstances (neighbors).*

Mary got pregnant as a _____, before she was married, in a culture where this was strictly prohibited and punished. *Cause of problem: _____ plan.*

Joseph planned on _____ Mary, since she got pregnant before they were married (breaking engagements required divorce then). *Cause of problem: Not _____ God's plan.*

TRUTH:

God works for the good for those who have been called according to his purpose. Here, "purpose" (from the Greek language) means God's intention, a plan that has been _____ for you.

Romans 8:29 says God determined that we would be _____ (*fashioned, shaped, _____*).

Conformed to what? **THE _____ (Jesus).**

Since the beginning of creation, God had a design for your life, but the design wasn't about dollar signs or job promotions. The design God had for you was how to help you be the _____ you were meant to be.

God determined that _____ God works for the good of those who love him (good = shaping you to be more like Jesus).

HOW DID GOD BRING ABOUT GOOD:

Zechariah got his speech back, and their neighbors were " _____ " and "filled with _____ " at what God did!

Zechariah _____, and throughout Judea people were _____ to see what God would do.

Mary and Joseph raised Jesus and experienced his blessings _____, including thousands of people learn to be what they were _____ be.

CONCLUSION:

We don't long for difficult circumstances, but we long to be the people God designed us to be. If that means dealing with difficult circumstances, I say " _____ . If God is for me, who can be against me?"