

“And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.” *Luke 2:26 (ESV)*

“And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.” *Luke 2:36-38 (ESV)*

“A voice cries: ‘In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.’” *Isaiah 40:3 (ESV)*

“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.” *Malachi 3:1 (ESV)*

“Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, ‘I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?’ But Jesus answered him, ‘Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.’ Then he consented.” *Matthew 3:13-15 (ESV)*

## **1. God \_\_\_\_\_ the activities that He wants us to do.**

“Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.’ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures...” *Luke 24:44-45 (ESV)*

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” *Ephesians 2:8-10 (ESV)*

“And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil...” *Luke 4:1-2a (ESV)*

“And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.” *Mark 1:13 (ESV)*

## **2. God \_\_\_\_\_ His people to perform the activities He has prepared.**

“And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time. And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.” *Luke 4:13-15 (ESV)*

## **3. God \_\_\_\_\_ us to act according to His good and wise timing.**

“To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.” *2 Thessalonians 1:11-12 (ESV)*