

# LUKE 09 - Ransom Stories - Tracing Luke's preparation for Salvation

*Luke 1:68; 77-79 - "Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and **redeemed** them.... To give his people the knowledge of **salvation** through the **forgiveness of their sins**, because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace."*

*Luke 2:10-11 - But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you **good news** that will cause **great joy** for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.*

*Luke 3:4-6 - "A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all people will see **God's salvation.**' "*

Through chapters 1, 2 & 3 Luke weaves a golden tapestry into the narrative like a string of pearls about Jesus the saviour, redeemer or ransomer. This is not just true in Luke's gospel but all through history we have fictional and factual stories of ransoms being demanded, refused and paid. From Frank Sinatra's son to Aldo Moro, from John Paul Getty the third to Walter Kwok Ping-sheung; story after story, ransom and ransom, confronting us with the inherent value of life especially a son or daughter's life.

In Luke we have a story covered wall to wall with pictures of Jesus as saviour, as the redeemer, the one who will ransom us back from utter despair. The only question is:

**How sure are you that you know Jesus as your saviour?**

Our 3 possible responses:

1. There is no God to ransom me.
2. There is a God but will He ransom me?
3. There is a God and He has ransomed me!

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**How sure are you that you know Jesus as your saviour?**

**Are you still trying fill in the payment gap yourself?**