

Luke 1:70

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began:

Analysis

God's speaking 'by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began' establishes the continuity of redemptive revelation from creation onward. The phrase demonstrates that God's salvific purposes, now being fulfilled, were consistently proclaimed throughout Old Testament history. The designation 'holy prophets' emphasizes their divine authorization and the sacred character of their message. This verse supports the Reformed principle of the organic unity of Scripture—all prophets proclaim the same redemptive message pointing to Christ. Zacharias interprets Jesus's coming as fulfillment of all prior prophecy, not a new or separate plan.

Historical Context

From Genesis 3:15's first messianic promise through all subsequent prophets, God consistently revealed His redemptive plan. Zacharias, as a priest familiar with Scripture, recognized that recent events fulfilled this ancient, unified testimony. The phrase 'since the world began' emphasizes God's eternal purpose in redemption.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does the unity of prophetic witness strengthen confidence in God's plan?
2. What does it mean that God's salvation was proclaimed 'since the world began'?
3. How does Jesus fulfill the testimony of all the prophets?

Interlinear Text

καθὼς ἐλάλησεν διὰ στόματος τῶν ἀγίων τῶν
As he spoke by the mouth which holy which
G2531 G2980 G1223 G4750 G3588 G40 G3588

ἀπ'
have been since
G575

αἰώνος
the world began
G165

προφητῶν
prophets
G4396

αὐτοῦ
G846

Additional Cross-References

2 Peter 1:21 (Holy): For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

Romans 1:2 (Holy): (Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,)

Acts 28:25 (Holy): And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias the prophet unto our fathers,