

WEEKLY WORSHIP GUIDE



Luke 1:46-56--December 3rd, 2023

Sermon Recap:

Magnificat

In the Magnificat, Mary both sing a melody to the Lord and admonishes the reader to follow her example to sing.

I. Mary's Song

- Context- Mary is an unwed, teenage mother. Her reputation and future were at stake in this society.
- Yet, she believes the promises of God and instead of focusing on herself or her circumstances, her heart and soul are focused Godward as she sings to him.
- Every one of us who have been pursued and set apart by a mighty and gracious God, has a song.

II. Purpose of Mary's Song

- "My soul magnifies the Lord"- Mary worships to glorify the Lord. She is acknowledging his greatness, singing in order to make his glory more clear and evident.
- This is why we sing. It is primarily toward God.

III. Content of Mary's Song

a. God Sees

- God sees Mary in her humble, shameful position.
- She will be called blessed because God has done a mighty work in her.
- God sees us in the shame and brokenness of our sin.

b. God Does

- God humbles the proud and exalts the humble. He satisfies those hungry for him and sends the rich (proud) away hungry.
- He has brought mercy to those who fear (revere) him.
- Mary speaks of these things in past tense because of God's faithfulness. A promise of from God comes with a guarantee of fulfillment.

c. God Says

- V.54-55- Mary remembers the promise that God spoke to Abraham.
- Jesus is the child of Abraham to whom the promise pointed and in whom blessing would come to the nations.
- The coming of Christ was the culmination of God's promises.

Mary teaches us that we all have a song to sing. We have reason to rejoice daily. We sing, not because of our circumstance, but because of who He is and what He has done. Our purpose must be to magnify/glorify God. The style and content of our song must be in reverent fear of a holy, faithful God.

Discussion Questions:

- How did Mary describe herself in her song? (v.47-48)
- What is Mary's style and/or attitude of worship?
- What reasons did Mary give for believing that all generations would call her "blessed"? (v.48)
- What was the purpose for Mary's praise?
- In what way does Mary "magnify" the Lord?
- Note the phrase "he has" throughout Mary's Song. What does Mary say God has done?
- What is significant about the past tense of these statements?
- What are the three points of content that Mary focuses on in her song?
- Who will and will not receive God's mercy according to vs. 50-53?
- What does it mean to fear the Lord? (v. 50)

Application:

- Do you sing? Why or why not?
- How can Mary's example help you be more intentional in daily worship?
- How does reflecting on God's attributes affect the way you worship?
- How does God's past, present, and future faithfulness compel you to praise him today?
- In your own testimony, how has God humbled or exalted you?

