

Miraculous Praise
Luke 1:39-80
December 8, 2019

My Mom passed away seven plus years ago. I miss her daily - especially on Saturday nights (when she would cook for me whatever I wanted - potatoes au gratin, pork chops, tea cakes, etc...). Wendy, the kids and I were over on 992 Villa Rica Road, Marietta, GA every Saturday night until we moved to Conyers - then it was every other Saturday night. We would talk and eat and enjoy one another - just like families should ... My Mom (because she's in Heaven, I can share this now) was the kind of person you could not "out sick". Every Saturday night we were going to have some kind of conversation about her ailment of the week. As she aged, she loved her doctor. Part of it was the attention he paid to her - she loved it and she loved him (especially in her 70's). Today's message comes from Luke - were going back to Mary's perspective and pick up where we left off two weeks ago.

Luke was a physician.

[Colossians 4:14](#) Luke the beloved physician greets you, as does Demas.

It is practically unanimous Luke interviewed Mary for his gospel. Luke wrote his gospel in the early 60's - that would have put Mary in her mid 70's at the time. **(Be careful)** Little old Jewish women (Just like Gentile women) love their doctors! My Mom was on 15 prescription medications when she passed away . . . My doctor was raised an Orthodox Jew. We went into his "pill room"/in-house pharmacy and he told me one day "this is Heaven for little old Jewish women. They come in here and just rub this stuff all over them." You know Mary loved Luke. I wonder if he

was her family doctor when he wasn't traveling with Paul? Perhaps . . . Now, just for a while let's enter the house (room) where Dr. Luke was interviewing Mary and let's listen in on the conversation.

PRAY HERE

Two miraculously conceived children encounter each other. **(pre-birth abortion comment here)**

Luke 1:39 In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, And when

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Luke 1:40 and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. {A betrothed girl was supposed to remain in her father's house in seclusion until the day of her wedding.)

- After her angelic visitor left her, she went to visit her cousin, Elizabeth, in the "hill country of Judea". Elizabeth and Zechariah lived as much as five (5) days away from Mary in Nazareth (approximately 60 miles) if traveling on foot {David Jeremiah, Why The Nativity?, p. 20). She had some time to contemplate being the mother of Messiah.

Luke 41 And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb, And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit,

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This is when John the Baptist was filled with the Holy Spirit, too *(from his mother's womb)* - to be empowered to do what God put him on earth to do and he begins right here doing what he will do after he is born, which is to announce Messiah's presence. This in in fulfillment of:

Luke 1:15 for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb.

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Luke 1:42 and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and is the fruit of your womb!"

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Luke 1:43 "And why is this **granted** to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me?"

Luke 1:44 "For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy."

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Luke 1:45 "And blessed is she who **believe** that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

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John and Elizabeth are the first people to realize that Mary's child is the Messiah. The Holy Spirit revealed this to them without a word from Mary.

- Nowhere in the New Testament is Mary called "The Mother of God". She is here referred to as the mother of Elizabeth's Lord. ["Lord" is used 20 times in Luke.]
- (**verse 45**) - "Blessed" describes the happy situation of those God favors (same word used in the Beatitudes of **Matthew 5**).
- Then, the "Blessed Mother" launches off into what is commonly referred to as the Magnificat (literally, "it magnifies") - and it is magnificent .

- Listen closely to me now - Do you want to know the major reason why she was
- favored by God? (She could never have earned God's favor- neither can you or I - but she did put herself in a position to be "Blessed" [picked] by God to carry His son - to raise Him, love Him, protect Him, etc.)
- *The major reason she was blessed by God -> by **studying** His Word (intensely)!* and then **submitting** (doing it) to the Lord for her life!!!

Luke 1:46 And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord,

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Luke 1:47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

Luke 1:48 for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

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Luke 1:49 for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

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Luke 1:50 And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

Luke 1:51 He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

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Luke 1:52 he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate;

Luke 1:53 he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

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Luke 1:54 He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,

Luke 1:55 he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever".

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Within these ten {10} verses of scripture, there are more than twenty (20) verses quoted from the Old Testament. There are twelve (12) different verses from the Old Testament quoted line by line in addition to Hannah's prayer in 1 Samuel 2:1-10 on which the song seems to have been modeled (The Expositor's Bible Commentary, p. 835).

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In order: seven total books

Screen 19-20

1. Psalm 34:2	6. Habakkuk 3:18	11. Psalm 103:17	16. 2 Samuel 22:28
2. Psalm 34:3	7. Psalm 138:6	12. Psalm 98:1	17. Jeremiah 13:9
3. Psalm 18:46	8. Psalm 71:19	13. Isaiah 40:10	18. Jeremiah 49:16
4. Isaiah 17:10	9. Psalm 111:9	14. Genesis 11:8	19. Psalm 107:9
5. Isaiah 61:10	10. Exodus 20:6	15. Exodus 18:11	20. Psalm 98:3

= 20 exactly (plus) **1 Samuel 2:1-10** = 10

7 total books/ 30 total verses either quoted line by line or used as a format for the "Magnificat" - IN TEN (10) VERSES!

- Mary was very familiar with Hannah's story in 1 Samuel 2:1-10 . Hannah was the mother of Samuel, Israel's leading prophet during the reign of Saul. Samuel anointed David as King of Israel {later, that Jesus ' mother would quote Samuel's mother is significant). Hannah may have become Mary's heroine - a woman who dedicated her unborn child to God, then dutifully delivered him to the Temple priest, Eli. **(Mary would later learn how difficult it can be to give her child unreservedly to God...)**

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- Mary knew the Word of God and could quote it (from all over the Old Testament) terrifically. Gabriel, in his conversation with her answered every concern she had by quoting Old Testament passages. She composed the Magnificat in less than one (1) week by meditating on Scriptures - and she was probably (12 to 13 years old) at the most! No one can earn the favor of God, but we can sure choose a path in our lives that puts us into a position to be favored by God-> Mary chose the path of following/seeking God, through His Word and then submitting to his plan for her life. -> God took notice and blessed her with his favor to go down in history as the most honored woman/mother in the world. She was indeed blessed, and I believe she still is today. -> ("The proof is in the pudding.") **The blessed mother, Mary!**

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What about you today? Man or woman of God? Are you seeking Him? His will for your life? You will never know it apart from His Holy Word (see **James 1:21 (Jesus' half-brother)** in the ESV, **Therefore, put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.**)

"No Word (of God) = No Will (of God)" If you and I have the ability to read/study His Word and we choose NOT to, He owes us nothing in revealing Himself to us.

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- Do you need encouragement in a time when God seems far off? (Maybe he hasn't spoken to you in a long time.)
- Are you seeking God and wanting Him to have His will in your life?
- Are you waiting for God to use you in some magnificent way?

Take the lead of Mary! Name that- no matter what has happened in your life up until now, if you are truly born again, then you are favored by God and He has incredible plans for your life. "to give you a future and a hope " (**Jeremiah 29:11**)

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Keep seeking Him - keep searching His Word to learn of Him - keep believing that the best is yet to come and it will!

Luke 1:56 And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

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Read **Luke 1:57-80**.

PRAYER AND INVITATION

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