

THE PRAYERFUL SONG OF MARY
LUKE 1:46-55

Introduction:

1. These verses comprise what is known as then Song of Mary, but I see it as more of a prayer.
2. After receiving the promise of giving birth to the Messiah from the angel Gabriel, Mary her house and goes to see her cousin Elizabeth.
3. As she came into the house Elizabeth made mention of the fact that Mary would give birth to her Lord and Savior. **v. 43** *But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?*
4. Elizabeth then tells Mary that God's promise would be fulfilled. **v. 45** *Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord.*
5. It is then that Mary breaks out in this prayerful song to God.

I. MARY IS FILLED WITH PRAISING GOD. **vv. 46-48** *And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.*

A. The first thing Mary wants to do is to magnify, or declare, the greatness of God. **v. 46** *And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.*

B. A truly humble Mary rejoices in the fact that God has chosen her to bear the Messiah. **v. 47** *For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant...*

C. This honor that was placed upon Mary by God had nothing to do with her own merits, but was wholly given by the grace of God. **v. 48** *For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.*

D. This is the reason why people, even today, call her "blessed."

II. MARY ACKNOWLEDGES THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD. **vv. 49-50** *For He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name. And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.*

A. God is mighty. Gr. "dunatos", meaning "powerful."

B. God is holy. Lit. "sacred, pure."

C. God extends His mercy to all those who fear Him. **Psalms 103:11** *For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him.*

III. MARY RECOGNIZES THOSE WHOM GOD WILL BLESS. **vv. 51-53** *He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty.*

A. He shows His strength by separating the proud from the humble.

B. He destroys the mighty and exalts the humble.

C. He fills the hungry and sends the rich away without any provision.

IV. MARY RECALLS THE PROMISE OF GOD TO ISRAEL. **vv. 54-55** *He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.*

A. God continues to take care of Israel, even to this day, in spite of their disobedience and rebellion. **Psalm 105:7-10** *He is the Lord our God; His judgments are in all the earth. He remembers His covenant forever, the word which He commanded, for a thousand generations, the covenant which He made with Abraham and His oath to Isaac, and confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant...*

B. The promise of God to Israel is based entirely upon the Messiah that was born of a virgin in a small village named Bethlehem Ephrathah. **Micah 5:2** *"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting."*

V. WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM MARY'S PRAYERFUL SONG?

A. We need to praise and magnify God every day of our lives. **Psalm 103:1-2** *Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits:*

B. In praising God we need to acknowledge His attributes that He continually shows us. **Psalm 126:3** *The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad.*

C. We need to understand that God will bless us if we remain humble and rely upon His provisions. **Job 5:11** *He sets on high those who are lowly, and those who mourn are lifted to safety.*

D. We need to continually pray for the repentance of Israel. **Psalm 122:6** *Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.*

E. We need to remember that every promise of God is centered on Jesus. **2 Corinthians 1:20** *For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.*