

Luke 1:39-56 – Mary Visits Elizabeth

Introduction

1. The first hymn on the Incarnation of Jesus was from his mother
2. Last Week: Mary receives news from Gabriel about the Messiah being born to her
3. Messiah would be great, the Son of the Most High, Would sit on the throne of David and reign over Jacob forever
4. Messiah would be the Deliverer of God's People
5. Elizabeth in her old age was also with Child

Main Idea: The incarnation of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior brings to the believer's heart a sense of worship and adoration, thanksgiving, and joy.

Greetings: Mary & Elizabeth at Zechariah's House (vv 39-40)

1. Mary hastily goes to see Elizabeth for what she had heard (See verse 36) – Evidence of Her Faith
2. Enters the house of Zechariah with Greetings to Elizabeth
 - a. Hello makes heaven break loose
 - b. God engages two unknown, lowly women in an out of the way Roman province

Joy: John the Baptist Leaps at Mary's Voice (vv 41, 44)

1. The First person to Respond to Jesus Christ is John the Baptist in the womb of Elizabeth
2. John the Baptist LEAPS in Elizabeth's Womb
 - a. The Holy Spirit filled John in the womb (verse 15)
 - b. The Forerunner points to Jesus – he recognizes the Messiah
 - c. John knows who is in His midst, and hails the Messianic Age
3. He had joy in the Womb – and 30 years later he would joyfully endorse the Divine Identity of Jesus (Jn 3:29)
4. John's joy began in the Womb

Prophecy: Elizabeth Filled with the Holy Spirit (vv 42-45, 56)

1. The loud cry of Elizabeth, Prophesying over Mary
 - a. The Holy Spirit prompts Elizabeth to say God has blessed Mary
 - b. The Holy Spirit prompts Mary to say the baby she carries in her womb is blessed
 - c. God's redemptive plan is coming through Mary's pregnancy – Salvation has come to Sinful man

2. Elizabeth's blessing is reminiscent of the Old Testament
 - a. Judges 5 – Deborah Blesses Jael
 - b. God chooses the weak and humble to deliver His people
 - c. Gabriel claimed Mary was graced by God – and tells Mary through Elizabeth His purposes will be accomplished
3. Elizabeth is Humble – Why me? She knows the Baby in the Womb is her Lord, the God of Israel
4. Mary is Blessed – She believed the Word of the Lord, compared with Zechariah (verse 38)
5. Mary remained with Elizabeth for 3 Months – Imagine the conversations (Micah 5:2-3a is about Mary and Jesus)

Worship: Mary's Magnificat (My Soul Magnifies) (vv 46-55)

1. Mary responds with a Hymn of Worship
 - a. Her song is steeped in Scripture (see 1 Samuel 2, 1 Chronicles 16, Exodus 15, Psalms 36, 47, 136)
2. Mary Worships God with a Thankful Heart
3. Mary Worships God for what He has done for Her
 - a. She is filled with delight to glorify God (Ps 37:4, 1 Cor 10)
 - b. She is a sinner and sees God as her Savior
 - c. She is lowly and God regarded her humble status
 - d. God condescends to the lowly and humble
 - e. The Lord made her the Mother of God
4. The False teachings of the Roman Catholic Church on Mary
 - a. Mary is the immaculate conception – sinless
 - b. The perpetual virginity of Mary
 - c. The bodily assumption of Mary to heaven
 - d. Jesus warned against the veneration of Mary (Jn 11, Lk 8)
5. Mary Worships God for what He has done for His People
 - a. Sin reversed the Goodness of Creation – became subject to futility
 - b. The coming of Jesus begins the reverse of the Curse of Sin
 - i. Judgment and Salvation Enter
 - ii. Scattering and Exalting, Filling and Emptying
 - iii. The Lowly and Humble versus the Arrogant and Lofty
 - c. Jesus' ministry showed God's reversal – healing of lepers, lame, blind
 - d. Jesus begins the reversal of the cosmic order brought about by the Fall of man into sin
6. Theological Richness of Mary's Song – quotes and allusions from the Old Testament (The Exodus, Abrahamic Covenant)
7. The Coming of Jesus is a Time for Worshipful Rejoicing
 - a. God has acted on Our Behalf sending His Son to die for our sins through His death on the Cross
 - b. He has done great things for ME! (repent, believe, submit)