

Our theme for today: Adoration!

If you've been paying attention all this time, you might have noticed that a verse was skipped from Mary's Song. That was done so intentionally. The verse we skipped was verse 48-49.

Scripture

⁴⁶ *My soul magnifies the Lord,*
⁴⁷ *and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,*
⁴⁸ ***for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.***
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
⁴⁹ ***for the Mighty One has done great things for me,***
and holy is his name.

Luke 1:46-49

Thought provokers

- Once again, we see “*all generations*”. It declares that if we are in this song – if we have faith in Christ.
- Do you feel, given what we've learned and considered over the last few days, that Mary is blessed?
 - Isn't that amazing? After all this is 2,000 plus years later!

Reflections

Prophecy has come true. Mary has been blessed because of this child – the one called Jesus – given to her by God the Father, through the conception by the Holy Spirit. It is through this child that all the promises of presence, mercy, strength and the blessing of God Himself will be fulfilled. This Jesus who came into this world and walked among us and spoke God's truth, He is the One who brings us hope, and joy, and love, and peace. This same Jesus who bore our sufferings, and understood our pain, showed His mercy by healing the sick, restoring the blind, raising the dead, speaking forgiveness and hope to a depressed people – Jesus was there. This same Jesus who died on a cross to bring all mankind mercy, to take on God's judgment – all of it – for us and in our place, then rose from the dead to show us that our view of life and death was wrong. Sin and death will not win – there is power in us, by His mercy and He rains down this power to us so that every day we engage in the challenges of life – even when we feel lonely, even when we feel weak, even when we feel judged, even when we feel guilty, even when we feel poor, even when we have addictions, God is there! God is our strength! God is merciful! God is the true blessing.

Jesus, the Son of God who came to earth and carried out this sacrificial act, who died in our place, rose and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and every day He intercedes with Him

on our behalf – we are not alone, we are not without strength, we are not without mercy, we are not without God.

We can rejoice. We can rejoice with Mary. We can rejoice with each other even as Mary rejoiced with all her people.

This woman was blessed – blessed because she held in her own womb the One who would be slain – worthy is His name; this woman was blessed because God saw her humble estate – holy, holy, holy is this Lord God Almighty; this woman was blessed because this child would be King of Kings – God was everything to her, no wonder she adored Him. And it's why we can sing a new song to Him who sits on Heaven's mercy seat.

Prayer and Song

Take time to pray and sing praises to Him. Another well-known carol: O Come, All Ye Faithful

O Come, All Ye Faithful

*O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;*

Refrain:

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!*

*God of God, Light of Light eternal,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not created, [Refrain]*

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above:
"Glory to God, all glory in the highest!" [Refrain]*

*Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; [Refrain]*