

Mary Praises the Covenant-Keeping God

Main Lesson: Mary magnifies God for His goodness and mercy (**Luke 1:46-50**).

First let us begin by defining the word **heart**, in a spiritual context. The heart is the center of one's inner life and orientation to God, from which that person does all their thinking, feeling, and choosing.

In the last session we discussed the effects that songs can have on people. What is in a song? Songs are a form of expression. Just as we use words to convey our thoughts and ideas, we use songs to express the inner reality of our hearts.

This is what we encountered in the passage. Mary so filled with joy for what God was doing in her life that she overflowed into an expression of praise. ***"My soul praises the goodness of the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my savior"***.

One powerful aspect of songs is that they are communal, meaning they have the potential to bring large groups of people together with their message. Songs bring people together because we all are sharing in the same human experiences. These words above can be spoken by any believer that has tasted and seen the goodness of the Lord (**Ps. 34: 8-10**).

"Because He has looked with favor on the humble condition of his servant". Here we get a glimpse into the inner posture of Mary's heart. If songs are an expression of a person's heart, then with this song we can tell that Mary felt humbled in the presence of God and submitted to his will as a servant submits to their master. The beautiful submission of Mary is on display in her song that magnified the goodness and mercy of the Lord.

***"Surely From now on all generations will call me
blessed, because the Mighty One has done great things
for me, and his name is holy. His mercy is from
generations to generation on those who fear him"***

Christ Connection

In submitting to God's plan for her life, even though it would bring suffering and heartache, Mary chose to magnify God. As a result, her faithfulness is an example to us. Likewise, Jesus magnified His Father through His obedient life, and He submitted to God's plan, even to death on a cross, so that we could be saved.