

Luke 1:46-55

Mary's Song

Allow Jesus to Turn Your World Upside Down.

Intro: Mary's Song (often called Mary's Magnificent) is typically associated with the Advent season and Christmas celebrations, but what Mary is trying to communicate to us has incredible import in every season, and incredible significance for each one of us.

I. the context

1. Literary: Where does Luke place Mary's Song in his gospel account? We'll come back to the significance of this!
2. Geographical, Historical, Cultural: Understanding where Mary comes from and what her life may have been like will help us better understand what she is trying to say through her song. It also gives us a great opportunity to consider how Mary's reality mirrors that of our Bihari sisters and brothers today.

II. the song

1. References: Mary has drawn from every corner of the Hebrew scriptures to form a dense theological poem that is dripping with allusions to the whole story of God's redemption.
2. The Point: Mary's Song is her proclamation of the good news of God, and Luke takes up her song to prologue all of the same themes of reversal that he will explore in more depth through his account of Jesus' life.

Cross References: Luke 4:18-19; Luke 6:20-26

Takeaway: For Mary, Luke, and Jesus, the arrival of God's rule in the world means a reversal of power, attention, wealth, and honor. Zechariah the priest is required to shut his mouth and take a back seat, while the farm girl Mary is given center-stage. As the kingdom of heaven arrives in your world, will you hear blessings or woes from Jesus' lips?

Communion Passage

1Corinthians 11:23 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took bread,

1Corinthians 11:24 and when he had given thanks, broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

1Corinthians 11:25 In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

1Corinthians 11:26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.