

**MY SOUL MAGNIFIES THE LORD
AND MY SPIRIT HAS REJOICED
IN GOD MY SAVIOR**

LUKE 1:46



ABUNDANT LIFE FOURSQUARE CHURCH

When The Lord Is With You There Is Joy

*Luke 1:26-29 Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And having come in, the angel said to her, Rejoice, highly favored one, **the Lord is with you**; blessed are you among women! But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was.*

In The Here And Now There Is Joy

Luke 1:30-33 Then the angel said to her, Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.

**The Bible instructs us to live in the present,
learn from the past and
to NOT WORRY about the future!**

Expect The Unexpected With The Lord

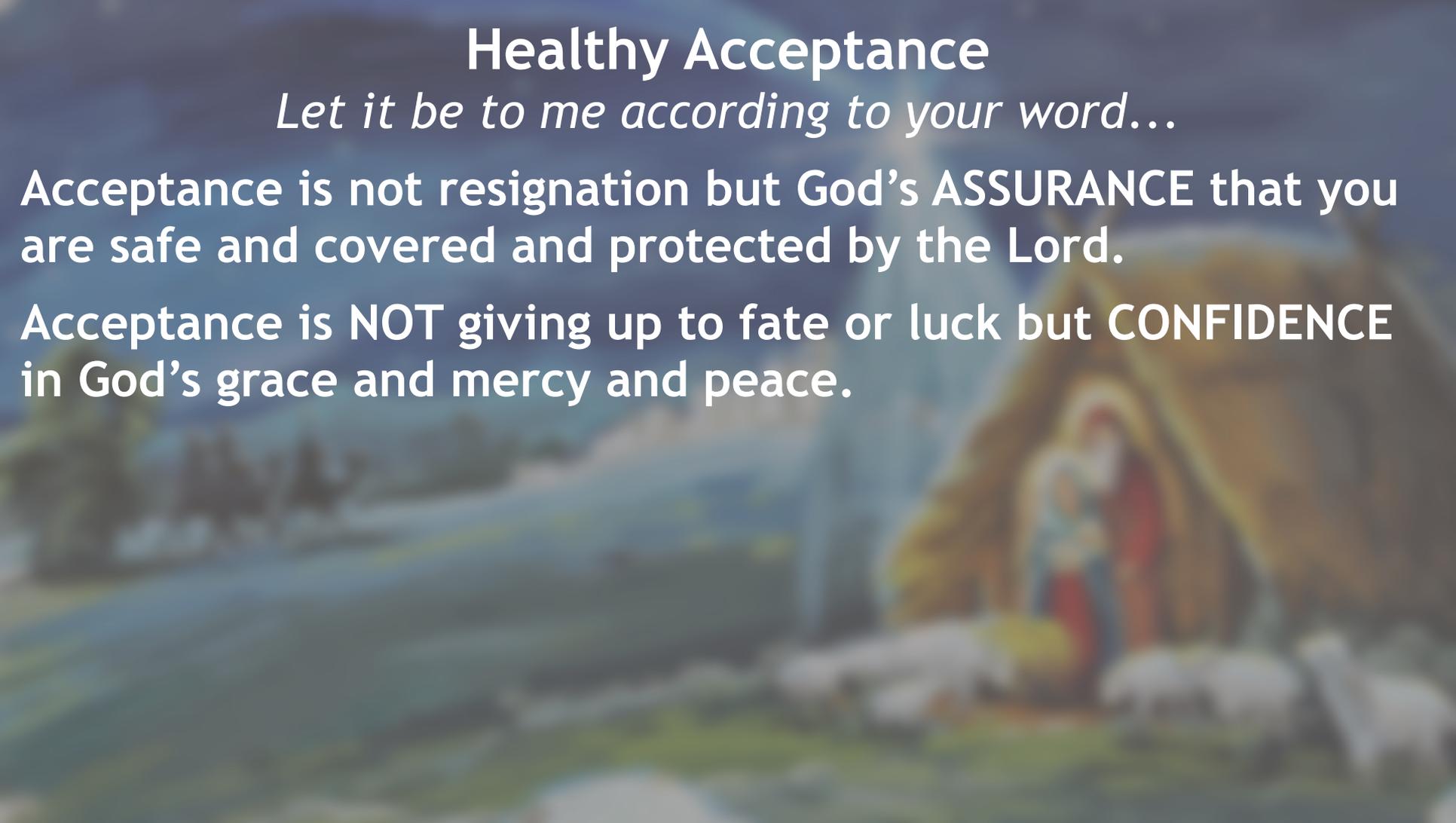
Luke 1:34-38 Then Mary said to the angel, how can this be, since I do not know a man? And the angel answered and said to her, The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible. Then Mary said, Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word. And the angel departed from her.

Healthy Acceptance

Let it be to me according to your word...

Acceptance is not resignation but God's **ASSURANCE** that you are safe and covered and protected by the Lord.

Acceptance is **NOT** giving up to fate or luck but **CONFIDENCE** in God's grace and mercy and peace.



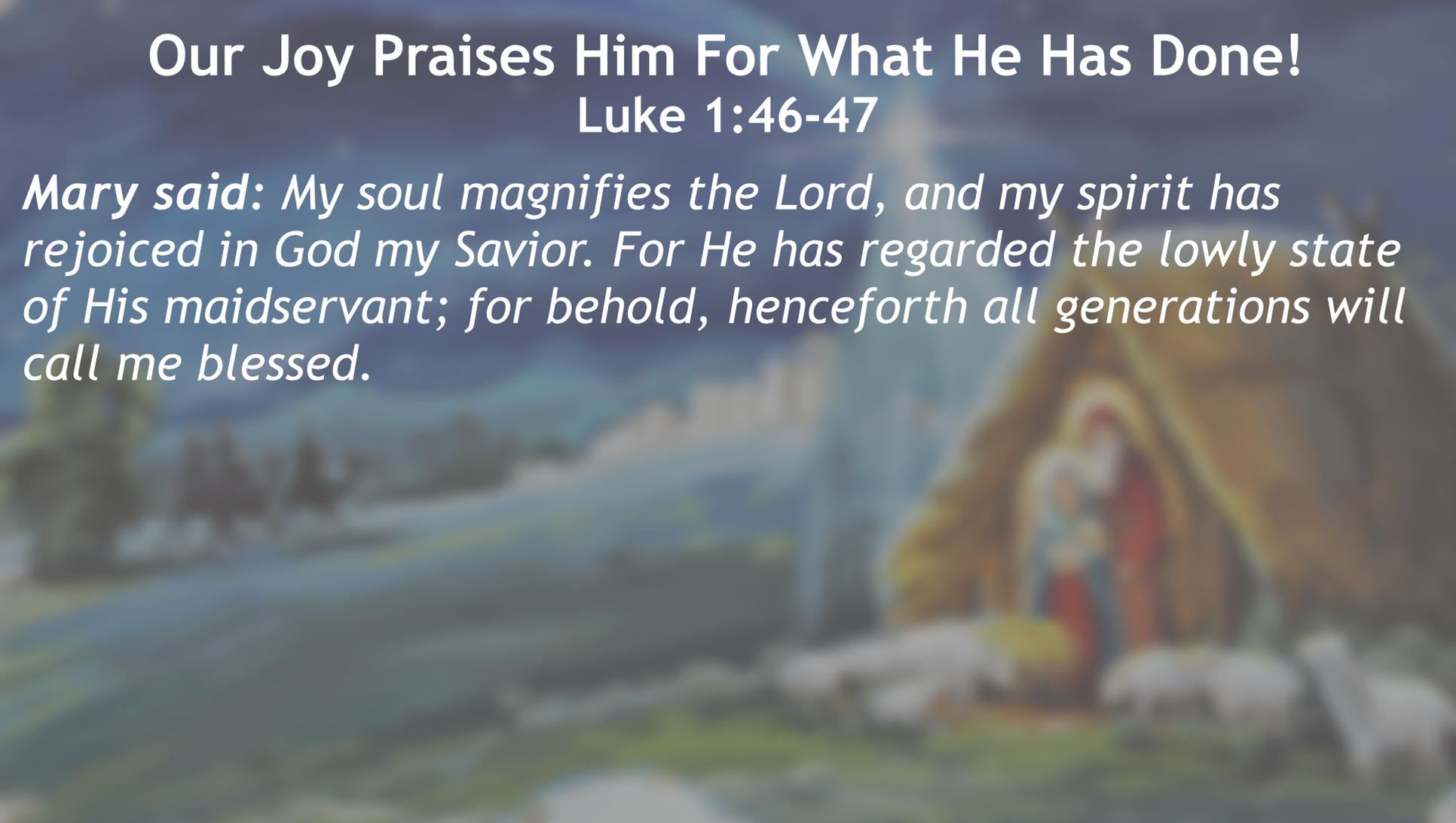
Blessed Are You

Luke 1:39-45 Now Mary arose...and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord.

Our Joy Praises Him For What He Has Done!

Luke 1:46-47

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.



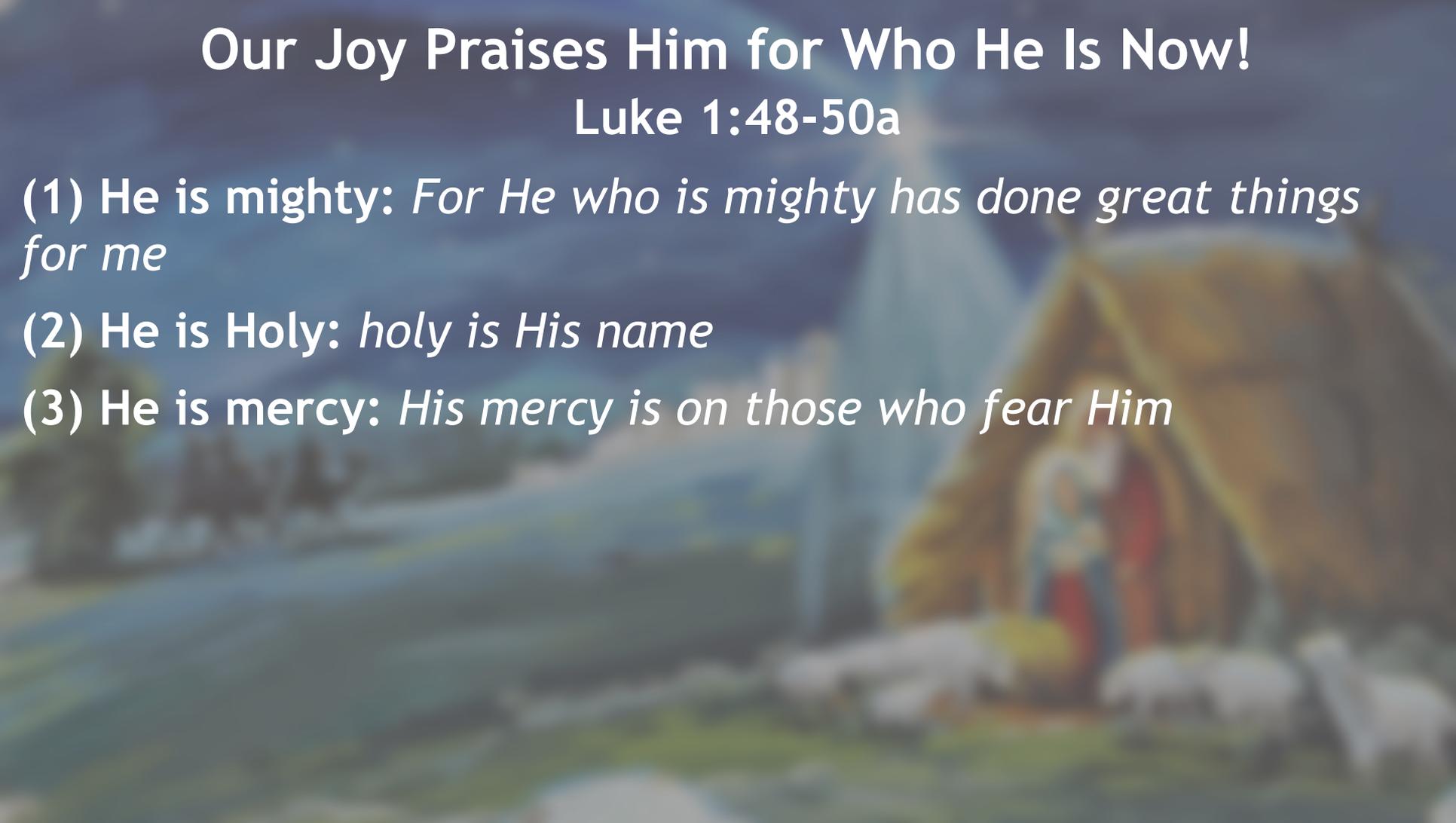
Our Joy Praises Him for Who He Is Now!

Luke 1:48-50a

(1) He is mighty: *For He who is mighty has done great things for me*

(2) He is Holy: *holy is His name*

(3) He is mercy: *His mercy is on those who fear Him*



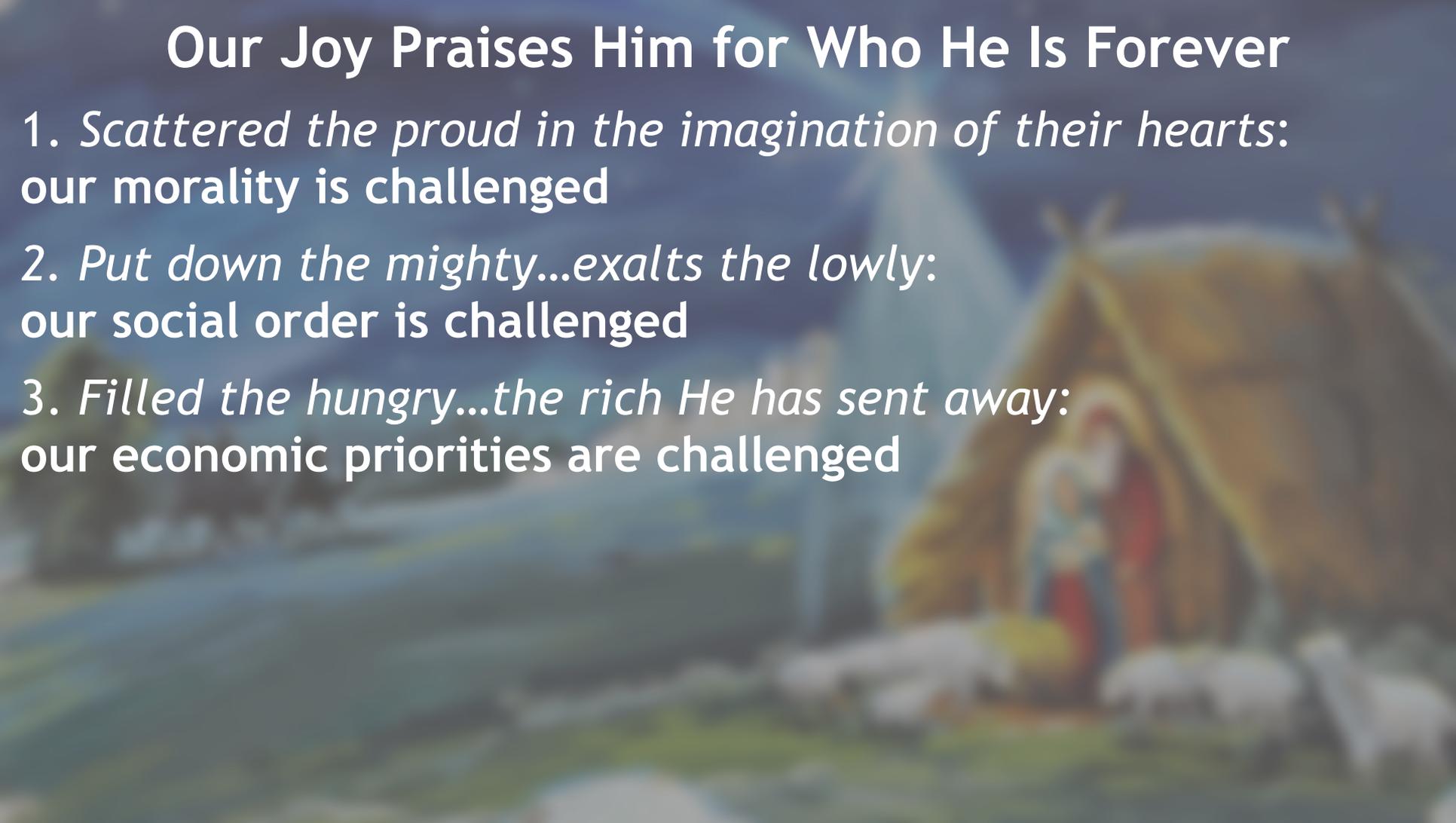
Our Joy Praises Him for Who He Is Forever

Luke 1:50b-55

From generation to generation. 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. He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

Our Joy Praises Him for Who He Is Forever

1. *Scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts:*
our morality is challenged
2. *Put down the mighty...exalts the lowly:*
our social order is challenged
3. *Filled the hungry...the rich He has sent away:*
our economic priorities are challenged



New Perspective; New Understanding

JOY comes as we TRUST IN the Lord

Isaiah 28:16 So this is what the Sovereign LORD says: See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed.

John 14:1 Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.

Psalms 136:1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever.

Christmas Joy is when we see the miraculous
evidence of what the Lord is doing:

IN us

THROUGH us

FOR us

