Luke 1:46-80 Pastor Ed Kemp

## **MESSAGE NOTES**

Thursday, December 2 Sunday, December 5

## Introduction

And blessed (Makarios) *is* she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord." <sup>46</sup>And Mary said: "My soul exalts the Lord, <sup>47</sup>And my spirit has rejoiced in God my <u>SAVIOR</u>. <sup>48</sup>"For He has had regard for the humble state of His bondslave; For behold, from this time on all generations will count me blessed.

Eulogio = To speak God's hand of favor on someone.

Makarios = To experience (fully satisfied) joy in the present because of the future. (Beatitudes = strategy)

<sup>49</sup>"For the <u>Mighty One</u> has done great things for me; And holy is His name. 50"AND HIS MERCY IS UPON GENERATION AFTER GENERATION TOWARD THOSE WHO FEAR HIM. 51"He has done mighty deeds with His arm; He has scattered those who were proud in the thoughts of their heart. 52"He has brought down rulers from their thrones, and has exalted those who were humble. 53"HE HAS FILLED THE HUNGRY WITH GOOD THINGS: And sent away the rich empty-handed. 54"He has given help to Israel His servant, in remembrance of His mercy, 55 As He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and his descendants forever." 56 And Mary stayed with her about three months, and then returned to her home. <sup>57</sup>Now the time had come for Elizabeth to give birth, and she gave birth to a son. 58 Her neighbors and her relatives heard that the Lord had displayed His great mercy toward her; and they were rejoicing with her. 59 And it happened that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to call him Zacharias, after his father.

<sup>60</sup>But his mother answered and said, "No indeed; but he shall be called John." 61 And they said to her, "There is no one among your relatives who is called by that name." 62 And they made signs to his father, as to what he wanted him called. 63 And he asked for a tablet and wrote as follows, "His name is John." And they were all astonished. <sup>64</sup>And at once his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he began to speak in praise of God. 65 Fear came on all those living around them; and all these matters were being talked about in all the hill country of Judea. 66 All who heard them kept them in mind, saying, "What then will this child turn out to be?" For the hand of the Lord was certainly with him. 67And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying: 68" Blessed (eulogio) be the Lord God of Israel, For He has visited us and accomplished **REDEMPTION** for His people, <sup>69</sup>And has raised up a <u>horn</u> of salvation for us In the house of David His servant— <sup>70</sup>As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from of old—71Salvation FROM OUR ENEMIES, And FROM THE HAND OF ALL WHO HATE US; 72To show mercy toward our fathers, and to <u>remember</u> His holy covenant, 73The oath which He swore to Abraham our father, 74To grant us that we, being rescued from the hand of our enemies, might serve Him without fear, 75 In holiness and righteousness before Him all our days. <sup>76</sup>"And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go on BEFORE THE LORD TO PREPARE HIS WAYS; 77 To give to His people the knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins, 78 Because of the tender mercy of our God, with which the Sunrise from on high will visit us, 79TO SHINE UPON THOSE WHO SIT IN DARKNESS AND THE SHADOW OF DEATH, to guide our feet into the way of peace." 80 And the child continued to grow and to become strong in spirit, and he lived in the deserts until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

So What?!

Christmas is the time to be blessed (makarios) with the past and blessed (eulogio) with God's future for us, by:

#1. Trusting the Mighty Warrior who saved you.

#2. Trusting the Powerful Redeemer who purchased you.

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**Group Discussion:** If you were going to compare angels to something in our culture, would you compare them to: 1. A dove. 2. A cherubic fat child with wings. 3. A full grown person. 4. A powerful Black Hawk helicopter.

Why?

## Read out loud: Luke 1:46-80

Christmas is the time to be blessed (makarios, fully satisfied) with the past and blessed (eulogio, verbally praising) with God's future for us, by:

#1. Trusting the Mighty Warrior who saved you.

Some people, when asked, compare Jesus to a sweet romance movie with a happy ending, when the Old Testament tells us He's more of a military movie with a giant rescue scene. What's been your past impression of who Jesus is and what He's like? Mary is 12-14 years old and yet she's the one who gets encouragement from picturing God as a Mighty Warrior! Why would being a young girl or woman in Israel during the Roman occupation find encouragement from this picture of God? Picture God as a Mighty Warrior, how does that picture bring encouragement to you during the Christmas season?

#2. Trusting the Powerful Redeemer who purchased you.

Redeem means to buy back or to free from captivity by payment of ransom (Webster Dict.) Jesus is a redeemer because He purchases our freedom from sin, Satan, hell and death. When Adam and Eve disobeyed God they enslaved themselves to Satan. That's why in verse 71 Zacharias says, "Salvation from our enemies, and from the hand of all who hate us." The Jewish people took that the nation of Israel would be free from Romans. Zacharias makes it clear that we are free from our real enemies, sin, Satan, hell and death. Jesus bought us back, and when we accept the payment Jesus made we become property of God. We are citizens of heaven. Have you ever thought of yourself as a previous slave of Satan? What's the latest enemy or sin you feel you're having victory over? What's the next area you, as a follower of Christ, would like to have victory over.

**Family Time:** Tell your kids the story of how they were planned, born (no graphic details please!!!) brought home and became a part of your family. Make sure to include how much you love them and how much they mean to you as a very important part of your family.