

Series: Prepare Him Room: The King is Coming II

Text: Luke 1:39-56

HI: Christmas is joyful because God is merciful.

Title: The Magnificat

Hook: Christmas joy

Date: 12.10.23

Purpose: To joyfully exalt Jesus in celebration of God's mercy.

FCF: In a world where we experience so much pain and grow accustomed to gross injustice, we hear good news of a merciful God and a glorious Savior.

COR: We have a natural longing for the tables to be turned on the unjust and prideful. The gospel gives us the news that God has brought mercy to sinners who put their trust in him.

Witness of Christ [WC*]: The glory of Jesus in salvation (CCL)

Apologetic: The justice we long for is brought by Jesus.

Text Tone: Encouragement

Preaching Voice: Sage

Form: Inductive

Call to Worship: Lamentations 3:22-24

Benediction: "Jesus said, [Matthew 5:3, 7]; enter this week joyful because your God is merciful."

Outline:

I. God's people leap for joy at the news of the Savior. (39-45)

A. Though his prophet is unborn, God's blessing is undeniable.

II. God's promise flips the script with the message of mercy. (46-56)

A. The Lord's mercy saves the humble sinner. (47-50)

B. The Lord's might humbles the prideful heart. (51-53)

C. The Lord's faithfulness secures his people's future. (54-56)

Main Idea:

Subject: Why is the news of Christ's birth such a means of joy?

Complement: Because it is the fulfillment of God's promise to mercifully save his people.

Exegetical Idea: The news of Christ's birth is a means of joy because it is the fulfillment of God's promise to mercifully save his people.

Theological Idea: News of Christ's birth is joyful because it reveals the faithfulness of the Lord, who mercifully saves his people.

Homiletical Idea: Christmas is joyful because God is merciful.

God sent a baby to bring us mercy.

God's mercy – baby

Introduction:

READ Luke 1:39-45

³⁹ In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰ and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴² and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³ And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

I. God's people leap for joy at the news of the Savior. (39-45)

Luke (11:27-28) As he said these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!" But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

Leaped for Joy = "a piercing exclamation of exultation"

READ Luke 1:46-56

⁴⁶ And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

49 for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

50 And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

51 He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

52 he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;

53 he has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

54 He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,

55 as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

56 And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

II. God’s promise flips the script with the message of mercy. (46-56)

Isaiah 9:6: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Then my soul will rejoice in the Lord, exulting in his salvation. Psalm 35:9

III: Christmas is joyful because God is merciful.