

Our Invitation this Christmas Season
Present to His Presence

December 3, 2023

Context - Song of Mary – Luke 1:31, 41-42

³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.

⁴¹ 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. ⁴² Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, “Blessed *are* you among women, and blessed *is* the fruit of your womb!

Context - Song of Mary – Luke 1:45

⁴⁵ Blessed *is* she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord.”

- 1. Blessed *are* you among women**
- 2. Blessed *is* the fruit of your womb**
- 3. Blessed *is* she who believed**

- Blessed - to praise, to celebrate with praises of that which is addressed to God, acknowledging His goodness, with desire for His glory (1 & 2)**
- Blessed - the nature of that which is the highest good (3)**

1 & 2. Blessed are the poor in spirit, Blessed are those who mourn, Blessed are the meek, Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, Blessed are the merciful, Blessed are the pure in heart, Blessed are the peacemakers, Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, (Matthew 11:3-11).

3. 1 Timothy 1:11 According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God. We also see this word used in 1 Timothy 6:15b God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords.

- There is blessing for those who believe that God will fulfill those things He speaks.
- There is blessing when we believe what God speaks over our lives.
- There is blessing through the fulfillment of what God speaks over our lives.
- Blessings are not just something we receive.
- Blessing is a way we live where we receive who God is, His nature, through our acknowledgement and praises to Him.

How do we live present to His presence
during this season?

Blessing is a way we live
where we receive who God is, His nature,
through our acknowledgement and
praises to Him.

Mary's Song – Luke 1:46-47

And Mary said: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my savior.

- Soul - breath, the breath of life
- Magnifies - to make great, enlarge
- Spirit (pneuma) – breath; spirit of God
- Rejoiced – exult, rejoice greatly

Breath Prayers

- Breath prayers are simply a tool to help our soul and spirit be present with God.
- Jesus, Son of God (inhale), have mercy on me (exhale).
- My soul (inhale), glorifies the Lord (exhale). (Luke 1:46)
- My soul finds rest (inhale), in God alone (exhale).
(Psalm 62:1).
- Loving Shepherd (inhale), lead me by still waters
(exhale). (Psalm 23)

How do we live present to His presence
during this season?

Breath prayers are
one way for us to recognize and speak
to the greatness of our God,
to praise and rejoice in who our God is.

Luke 1:48-50

**48 For He has regarded the lowly state of His
maidservant;
For behold, henceforth 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* on those who fear Him
From generation to generation.**

Luke 1:51-52

**⁵¹ He has shown strength with His arm;
He has scattered *the* proud in the imagination of
their hearts.**

**⁵² He has put down the mighty
from *their* thrones,
And exalted *the* lowly.**

Luke 1:53-54

**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 seed forever.”**

Luke 1:48-54 (TPT)

For He set His tender gaze upon me, His lowly servant girl. And from here on, everyone will know that I have been favored and blessed. The Mighty One has worked a mighty miracle for me; holy is His name! Mercy kisses all His godly lovers, from one generation to the next. Might power flows from Him to scatter all those who walk in pride.

Luke 1:48-54 (TPT)

Powerful princes He tears from their thrones and He lifts up the lowly to take their place. Those who hunger for Him will always be filled, but the mug and self-satisfied He will send away empty. Because He can never forget to show mercy, He has helped His chosen servant, Israel, Keeping His promises to Abraham and to His descendants forever.

- She shares how He sees her, **He set His tender gaze upon me, His lowly servant girl.**
- Mary shares how she sees God, He is **the Mighty One (who) has worked a mighty miracle for me; holy is His name!**
- Mary shares how her view of herself and God - how she sees others. **Mercy kisses all His godly lovers, from one generation to the next.**
- Mary shares an invitation her fulfillment in God. **Those who hunger for Him will always be filled, but the mug and self-satisfied He will send away empty.**

How do we live present to His presence
during this season?

Be filled by God
as you are filled with God,
hunger for Him.

How do we live present to His Presence?

- Looking at the Song of Mary – Mary's response to Jesus' Presence
- We are blessed by God (thinking)
- Breath Prayers (physical and spiritual)
- Be filled by God (hunger)