

The Song of Mary

Luke 1:46–55

What's Your Favorite Christmas Song?

Main Idea - Mary's Song Honors God Above All Else!

For a 14-year-old girl, this young lady has some significant spiritual understanding and maturity.

What I want you to see is how this Song or Magnificat exalts, not Mary, but her God and Savior.

Mary's Song...

1. Magnifies God as Savior
2. Celebrates God as Unique
3. Remembers God as Promise Keeper

1. Mary's Song Magnifies God as Savior (vs. 46-48)

Mary's God is her personal Lord and Savior

Luke 1:46–47 ESV

⁴⁶ And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

Isn't it interesting that Mary needed a savior? She was not sinless. She was not perfect! She needed redemption and salvation from her sin condition. She admits this in the text by calling God, not her co-redeemer, but her Savior.

By the way, if Mary needed a savior and redeemer, so do you! Is her Son your personal Lord and Savior?

Mary's God exalts the humble

Luke 1:48 ESV

⁴⁸ for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

Mary understood her position before God. She had a healthy view of herself. The NLT says "lowly servant girl." And this girl would be blessed throughout all generations because as Mark Lowry said so well, "Mary was the first one to carry the Gospel." Notice she says she will be blessed, not venerated. Mary was humble.

Every Christian would be wise to follow the example of her spirit and, as Paul says in Philippians 2, "*not to think more highly of themselves than they ought.*"

Matthew 23:12 ESV

¹² Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

James 4:6 ESV

⁶ But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

James 4:10 ESV

¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Mary carried within her womb, her personal Lord and Savior. She, the mother of the God/man recognized she needed a savior.

Do you?

Review - Mary's Song Honors God Above All Else!

- Mary's Song Magnifies God as Savior...

2. Mary's Song Celebrates God as Unique (vs. 49-53)

Mary clearly articulates five ways in which her God is unique...

Mary's God is Mighty in her life (vs. 49a)

Luke 1:49 ESV

⁴⁹ for he who is mighty has done great things for me...

It is good to remember that our God is mighty.

What has your mighty God done for you?

Mary's God is Holy in His name (vs. 49b)

Luke 1:49 ESV

⁴⁹ ...and holy is his name.

God's holiness is a profound reality that all believers need to understand. His holiness means He is set apart and unique from His creation because He is sinless, righteous, and perfect!

Psalm 99:3 ESV

³ Let them praise your great and awesome name! Holy is he!

Do you, like Mary, recognize that God is holy? More importantly, does your life reflect the holiness of God?

Mary's God is Merciful to all that fear him (vs. 50)

Luke 1:50 ESV

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

There are two ways to understand Mercy. One is withholding of just punishment. The next is the relief of suffering.

Mary demonstrated awe and reverence for her God. And God's promise was mercy.

Proverbs 1:7 ESV

⁷ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

You can take a cue from this godly girl by asking yourself, "Do I have a proper fear and reverence of God. If you do, you will receive a special measure of His Mercy.

Mary's God is Strong Over All (vs.51-52)

Luke 1:51-52 ESV

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;

The theological term for this is Omnipotent, all-powerful. Mary recognized that God is powerful to accomplish whatever He desires.

Psalm 89:10 ESV

¹⁰ You crushed Rahab like a carcass; you scattered your enemies with your mighty arm.

Mary was facing an unprecedented life of challenge (I'm going to talk about that next Sunday). And yet her unwavering trust was in a God who was strong over all.

Remember Jesus wise words?

Matthew 10:28 (ESV)

²⁸ And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Do you trust the all-powerful one even when life doesn't make sense? Mary did and so can you!

1. Mary's God is Mighty in her life (vs. 49a)
2. Mary's God is Holy in His name (vs. 49b)
3. Mary's God is Merciful to all that fear him (vs. 50)
4. Mary's God is Strong Over All (vs.51-52)

Mary's God is Provider of all things (vs. 53)

Luke 1:53 ESV

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

Mary can trust her God and Savior because He has and will continue to provide all things for her!

Psalm 107:9 ESV

⁹ For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

The God of the Bible is unique. There is none quite like Him. And for this I am eternally grateful. Because no one else has the capacity or capability to rescue us from our eternal condemnation other than this God. The MIGHT, HOLY, STRONG, PROVIDER GOD is Mary's UNIQUE God!

Is He your God as well?

Review - Mary's Song Honors God Above All Else!

- Mary's Song Magnifies God as Savior...
- Mary's Song Celebrates God as Unique

3. Mary's Song Remembers God as Promise Keeper (vs. 54-55)

These verses give two ways in which God demonstrates that He is a promise-keeping God

Mary's God has cared for his people throughout history (vs. 54)

Luke 1:54 ESV

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

Remember, Mary was a committed Jew who loved God and was looking for Messiah. She understood how God had cared for her people through the ages.

Micah 7:20 ESV

²⁰ You will show faithfulness to Jacob and steadfast love to Abraham, as you have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.

Psalms 98:3 ESV

³ He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

If you are in Christ, you are his people too! Both the Old Testament and New Testament make this promise. (Deut 31:8; Hebrews 13:5-6).

Deuteronomy 31:8 (ESV)

⁸ It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed."

Mary's God will care for his people forever ! (vs. 55)

Luke 1:55 ESV

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

Do you understand Mary's point? As stiff-necked as God's people were, His promise to Abraham would stand. They would be His people forever!

Genesis 17:9 ESV

⁹ And God said to Abraham, "As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations.

Galatians 3:16 ESV

¹⁶ Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ.

The Bible Knowledge Commentary 1:46–55

Through the Child that she was to bear, God was being merciful to Abraham and his descendants. Mary was aware that the birth of her Child was a fulfillment of the covenant promises to Abraham and his people.

Mary's God keeps every promise He has ever made. The most amazing promise God made over and over throughout biblical history is that He will save His people from their sins. He made this promise to the Old Testament fathers as well as the authors of the New Testament as well.

Matthew 1:21 ESV

²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

Christmas is the beginning stage of fulfilling that promise...

Christmas time means a lot of different things to people these days. But, honestly, **Christmas can mean only one thing** - The celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior!

Review - Mary's Song Honors God Above All Else!

- Mary's Song Magnifies God as Savior...
- Mary's Song Celebrates God as Unique
- Mary's Song Remembers God as Promise Keeper

Conclusion

There are a lot of really wonderful Christmas songs that people have produced over the years, but I think my new favorite is this very old song written by the mother of Jesus. I hope it's your new favorite as well!

Why? Because...

Mary's Song Honors God Above All Else!