

THE
PROMISES
OF
CHRISTMAS



A night sky with a bright star at the top center, surrounded by a purple and blue nebula. Below the sky is a silhouette of a city with lit windows. The word "JOY" is written in a gold, serif font inside a dark rectangular box with a thin gold border.

JOY

Luke 1:39-56



Luke 1:

39 Now at this time Mary arose and went in a hurry to the hill country, to a city of Judah, 40 and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. 41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. 42 And she cried out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed [are] you among women, and blessed [is] the fruit of your womb! 43 "And how has it [happened] to me, that the mother of my Lord would come to me? 44 "For behold, when the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby leaped in my womb for joy. 45 "And blessed [is] she who believed that there would



Luke 1:

be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord."
46 And Mary said: "My soul exalts the Lord, 47 And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. 48 "For He has had regard for the humble state of His bondservant; For behold, from this time on all generations will count me blessed. 49 "For the Mighty One 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.



Luke 1:

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.



I HAVE loved you...

- Malachi's message ... 400 years
- Angelic message of life...
- Zacharias, Elizabeth, Mary
- Simple people – sharing promises



A Meeting

- Mary goes to “hill country” Judah
 - Sharing a miracle – conceptions!
 - As they meet – Holy Spirit filling!
 - Baby JB leaps for joy in the womb (44)
 - “mother of my Lord”



Mary Responds

- ‘exalts the Lord’
- My spirit *has* rejoiced
- “God my Savior” – yes, she needed it!
 - Mary was God’s vessel... human!
 - Her focus...




His Glory

- Regarded me
- Mighty One
- Done great things
- Mercy
- Mighty deeds (arm)
- Scattered proud
- Put down rulers
- Filled the hungry
- Given help Israel
- His mercy









My soul glorifies
the Lord and my
spirit rejoices in
God my Savior!

★ JOY!