



**In Celebration of the Mother of Jesus  
Luke 1:46-56**

**We can rejoice even amid great uncertainty.**

<sup>46</sup> And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

**Text Message:**

- Mary’s song is called *the Magnificat* (Latin for “magnifies”) and is the first of four songs in Luke 1-2 surrounding Christ’s birth.
- Mary’s song is in response to:
  - 1) The angelic announcement that she as a virgin would conceive and give birth to the Messiah (Luke 1:26-38).
  - 2) The confirmation of this by her cousin Elizabeth in Luke 1:39-45.
- Notice how Mary’s great song of praise ends with great uncertainty. This is the last we hear of Mary in Luke chapter 1:
 

<sup>56</sup> And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.
- There is so much being said here without being said!
- Things were far from being settled! Questions were far from being answered! How her village would respond, and Mary’s future are still great-big unknowns yet to be played out!
- Mary shows us we can rejoice (**now!**) because “nothing is impossible with God! (Luke 1:37)

**We can lean into the mercy of God.**

<sup>50</sup> And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

**Text Message:**

- Look at the word “for,” which literally means, “on, upon” and is translated as such in several translations (KJV, LSB, RSV, NASB95).
- The word “mercy” here is the Greek word for mercy (ελεος, *eleos*), but Mary isn’t Greek, she’s Hebrew and would have had a much broader and richer concept of mercy.
- The Hebrew understanding of mercy is the word *Chesed* (חֶסֶד), which is so rich it must be defined with multiple definitions such as “lovingkindness, mercy, covenant faithfulness.”
- In Scripture, it is God’s *Chesed* which:
  - 1) Redeems (us) from enemies and trouble.
  - 2) Preserves (our) life from death.
  - 3) Enables (us) to have spiritual life.
  - 4) Redeems (us) from sin.
  - 5) Reveals God’s faithfulness to what He has said.

Source: <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/h2617/esv/wlc/0-1/>
- *Where in life do you need to lean into God’s mercy?*

**We can trust God to fulfill His promises.**

**Verses 51-53:**

**Text Message:**

- These verses are critical for understanding what “salvation” looked like to ancient Jews.
- Salvation was not simply going to heaven after life here, but God’s breaking into this world.
- These verses highlight nothing less that total revolution:
  - Moral revolution: Verse 51.
  - Social revolution: Verse 52.
  - Economic revolution: Verse 53.
- How we need such a Jesus revolution today!
- **And** this is what we pray for, and endeavor to live into, when we pray “Thy kingdom come.”:



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