

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

We can rejoice even amid great uncertainty.

⁴⁶ And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷ 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.
- \circ $\,$ 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: ⁵⁶ 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.

⁵⁰ 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 (הֶסֶר), 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.

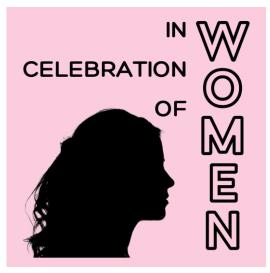
Verses 51-53:

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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