MARY'S SONG

LUKE 1:46-49 • TV108B

A television broadcast sermon delivered
SUNDAY, JANUARY 6TH, 1980
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Transcribed, edited and published
MARCH 27TH, 2016

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Zebulon Baptist Church
6088 Zebulon Highway
Pikeville, KY 41501

Luke 1:46-49
"And Mary said, my soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is his name."

If you will, turn in your Bible to the book of **Luke chapter 1**. I'm going to give you just a moment to find this Scripture because I am going to read several verses and bring you some points of each verse.

Now, we are going to begin our reading with **Luke 1:46 and 47.**

And the title of the message is: **"MARY'S SONG."** Mary's song is our song.

In **Luke 1:46** and Mary said: *"My soul doth magnify the Lord and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour."*

Now, my friend; we must not, we dare not, worship Mary. We must not worship Mary the mother of Jesus of Nazareth. We dare not pray to her, and we dare not make her a mediator between us and Christ, us and God.

We dare not bow; (listen to me) before her statue or any other statue of saints, apostles, or disciples, or any other idol. This is idolatry and it's the height of folly and it's forbidden in the Word of God.

Now, this is the day of what we call "visual aids" in worship. This is a day of idolatry disguised. We have pictures of the disciples and we have pictures of Christ. We have pictures of Mary and we have statues and idols of departed saints, and idols of Mary.

The Word of God plainly says and I would not offend you; I would be true to your soul and I would be honest with you. The Word of God says in **Exodus 20**; *"Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image or any likeness of anything that's in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them."*

A believer, a Christian, a man who is seeking God and following the Lord, has no business on his knees in front of anyone but God, in front of anything but the living God, not a cross, not a statue, not an idol, and not a picture.

We've got no business with these things even in our home. The more you have of God in your heart the less you need visual aids and reminders. And the more visual aids and reminders that you have in need, the less grace you have in your heart.

Now, in **Revelation chapter 19:9 and 10**, the apostle John was on the Isle of Patmos, and he was receiving the revelation of Jesus Christ the Lord and the prophecy of things to come. And the angel said to him; (this is an angel of God now that appeared to the apostle John. This was a messenger of heaven. This was one of the elect angels who appeared to the apostle John) *"Write, for these are the true sayings of God."* And John said: *"I fell at his feet to worship him."*

That seems like the normal and natural thing to do. If an angel came from the throne of God and met with you and appeared to you, an angel in all his immaculate holiness, beauty, and glory, came from the throne of God to tell you some things from the mouth of God; well, John fell down to worship.

And the angel said to him: *"See thou do it not."* The angel said: *"I am your fellow servant. I am of thy brethren; worship God."* That happened twice in the **Book of Revelation**. Worship God; don't bow even before an angel.

Now, Peter is said to be the first pope, which is not true, but the apostle Peter went to the house of Cornelius to preach. In **Acts chapter 10:25**, as Peter came in, *"Cornelius fell down at his feet."*

Here was Cornelius a Gentile; here was Cornelius a man who didn't know God. Here was Cornelius, a man to whom God had spoken in a vision and told him that he was going to send him an apostle. This was Peter, one of the twelve apostles to tell him the Gospel, to tell him how God saves sinners.

And when Peter, the illustrious, God-honored, Christ-chosen, apostle of the son of God, walked into this man's humble house; he fell on his knees. Do you know what Peter said? Peter said to him in **Acts 10:26:** *"Stand up don't you do that. I myself, also, am a man."*

Are you getting the message? Are you my friend? There are no men or women or creatures to be bowed before. There are no "Vickers of Christ" on this earth, substitutes for Christ, to be bowed before?

And all who claim that distinction are imposters; they are denying the Word of God. They are denying that they themselves are but men, frail and fallible men. We are to worship God. We are to bow before the Lord God.

Listen to **Matthew 23;** our Lord says*: "Call no man your father on this earth for one is your Father which is in heaven,* (the only Holy Father there is in the universe) *is the Lord of glory."*

And any man who assumes such a title is an imposter. *"One is your Father which is in heaven."* This is the Scripture. Do we want to hear God's Word or do we want to bow to our traditions and customs? Do we want to offend men or offend God? I prefer to offend men.

"And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven. Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ. But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant."

We don't seek for recognition and fame; we seek for His glory. And He said: *"He that exalteth himself shall be abased and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted."*

So, learn this lesson well. I'll give it to you as clear as I know how to give it. They that worship God, the true worshippers, "*worship God in spirit*," not lighting candles, carrying crosses, bowing before statues, and calling people on this earth "vickers, holy fathers, and masters" and this sort of thing: *"They worship God in spirit and in truth."*

We are brethren; even the angels are our fellow servants and our brethren, the apostles, preachers, ministers, elders, deacons, all who represent God. And the greater the man, the more humble and the less assuming and the less glory he takes to himself.

"Let this mind be in you which was in Christ our Lord who thought it not robbery to be equal with God, but made himself of no reputation and took on himself the form of a servant and became obedient unto death, (even the shame, and the ignominious sufferings of the cross) *even the death of the cross."*
Oh, this religious day with all of its idols, visual aids, and all of its bodily exercises, *"that profit nothing,"* Godliness, spirit-worship, worshipping God in spirit, walking with God as Enoch, speaking with God face to face as Abraham, because we have Redeemer, because we have a substitute, because we have a Mediator who is the Lord Jesus Christ.

He is all and all. He should have all the preeminence. He shares it with no man or no creature. Clean your house out of all of its idols. Clean your so-called churches out of all of their idols, figures, statues, and pictures of things in heaven and earth and departed saints and bow before the sovereign throne of the living God, the throne of grace. Worship God from your heart.

My friend; I'm telling you the truth. Am I your enemy for telling you the truth? You will never communicate with God through a piece of stone. You will never communicate with God through a picture or idol. You will communicate with God through the living Christ. He's not dead; He lives.

But while we do not worship Mary or pray to Mary or exalt Mary or give her a place of preeminence which only belongs to Christ; let's recognize her in the same fashion that the angels recognized her. What did the angel say when he appeared to Mary in verse **28 of Luke 1?** Look back at **verse 28 of Luke 1**; Gabriel said to Mary, *"You are highly favored of God, (*and she was), *and God's with you."* Here is this virgin, espoused to Joseph, not married yet, and had never known a man. She was probably 16 or 17 years of age.

He said: *"You are highly favored of God. God's with you and blessed are you among women."*
He said: *"You are going to have a child."* And she said, *"That can't be, I don't know a man."*

"Oh yes; you are going to have a son. And the Holy Ghost is coming upon you and the power of the highest shall overshadow you and that Holy thing which shall be conceived in you (in our virgin womb) *shall be called the Son of God."*

And my friend, the Lord Jesus Christ, that Son that was born of Mary, loved her, had compassion and affection upon her, but He never indicated in any way; He never called her mother, and He never indicated in any way that she had any power or any influence over Him whatsoever.

Did you know that, never? Never did He even give that indication. I don't know where we get that because Christ never even hinted or gave any indication that she had any power whatsoever or influence over him.

Let me give you an example: In **Matthew chapter 12:46 through 50** our Lord was preaching to a great throng of people in a building. And as He preached a man came to Him, someone came to Him, someone said to Him and the Scripture says, *"your mother and your brethren are outside and want to speak to you."*

Now let me tell you something; this thing of the immaculate conception of Mary is falsehood. She was born of a human mother and human father and she was born with human sin. She said, *"My soul rejoices in God my Saviour."*

The only person who needs a Saviour is a sinner. She thanked God for His mercy and the only people that need mercy are sinners.

And she had other children. I've heard people say that Mary never knew Joseph. Yes she did after Christ was born, not before. But after He was born she had other children, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas **(Matt. 13:55).**

And Mary and her other children were outside. Even His brethren did not believe on Him; that's the brethren of His household. And they were outside the house and someone came to the Lord and said: *"Your mother and your brothers and sisters out there, they want to speak to you."*

Now, if she has any power over Christ or any influence over Christ, it will be revealed right here. He'll stop what He is doing and go see what she wants and that's what people expect who pray to Mary. Who made her a mediator?

They say: "Well, a mother has great influence over her son, great power over her son, and if we can get to the mother, we can get to the son. If we can influence the mother, we can influence the son."

That may be so naturally on this earth but it's not with the Son of God. Mary is just another child, another sinner saved by grace. Let me show you that, and they said: *"Your mother and brothers are out there and they want to speak to you."*

And He said: *"Who is my mother? Who are my brethren?"* And then He pointed to His disciples and He said; *"Behold my mother, my brother and my sisters. My brother and my mother are those who do the will of God."*

The last time that Mary's mentioned in the New Testament is in **Acts 1:14.** She's never mentioned in one single epistle. The last time she's mentioned is in **Acts 1:14** and it says:

"The disciples were gathered in a room for prayer with Mary, the mother of Jesus, and with the other women and they all continued in prayer." They weren't praying to her; she was praying with them, and that's the last she's heard of. Nowhere in the Word of God is Mary exalted to any position over any believer.

After the angel announced to Mary that she was highly favored among women, highly favored of God and God was with her and she would have a Son; Gabriel also told her that her cousin Elizabeth was six months pregnant with a child in her sixth month.

And that child was conceived in her old age. Elizabeth was barren but nothing is impossible with God. And that child was John the Baptist who was the forerunner of Christ who came to announce the coming Redeemer, who came to bring down the high places, and raise the low places, and make straight a path for the Lord, and cry; *"Prepare ye the way of the Lord, the* (Redeemer's coming) *behold the Lamb of God."*

A forerunner always preceded the king. When a king came in glory and majesty the forerunner always went before him. That was John the Baptist.

Elizabeth was to bring forth John the Baptist and so Mary went down to see her. And when she walked in; read that in **Luke 1:42 through 46,** when she walked in Elizabeth said; she rejoiced and she said: *"when you came in, the baby in my womb jumped with joy."*

John the Baptist jumped with joy when Mary walked in because Mary was with child of the Holy Ghost. Christ Jesus was being formed in her womb. And Elizabeth confirmed to Mary everything that the angel had said to her.

You know, we need conformation; God speaks to us and God's Word is written to us. But believers need to exhort one another and encourage one another and confirm in their own spirits what God has told us and what God has revealed to us.

That's what preachers are for, like Elizabeth was Mary's preacher. God had told her and the angel had witnessed to her but she went down to Elizabeth and Elizabeth said: "It's so; I'm with child. I was barren in my old age but God performed a miracle and my son shall be a special one and you are with child and you will be the mother of our Lord; you will bear our Lord."

And so Mary then gave this most beautiful song; I call it Mary's song, and my song too. It's a song of thanksgiving. It's my song because; watch this, what did the angel say to Mary? *"You are highly favored of God."*

Brethren; every believer is highly favored of God. God hath chosen us out of this world of rebels and sinners. He didn't leave us to ourselves. Back in eternity past according to His own will and purpose He set His affections upon a people and gave them to Christ and made Christ our surety. We are highly favored of God. Blessed is that man whom the Lord chooses and makes His own.

Then He said: *"God's with you."* And God's with us; Christ said: *"I'll never leave you. I will never forsake you. I and my Father will come and take up our abode in you."*

And He said: *"You are blessed among women."* I'm blessed among men. You who know Christ are blessed among; there are people in this world who have never heard the Gospel.

We have missionaries; our church helps support ten missionaries all over the world because we believe people are lost who haven't heard the Gospel of Christ. They need to hear the Gospel to be saved.

"Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved and how shall they call on him in whom they've not believed and how shall they believe in him, of whom they've not heard, and how shall they hear without a preacher and how shall they preach except they be sent?" We are blessed among all people on the face of this earth; we've heard the Gospel.

And my friend, not only that, but the Holy Ghost hath come upon us. We are born of God and therefore, that which is born in us, that divine life; that life of God, is born of the Spirit and of the Word.

The new birth is not a decision you make; it's a work God performs. The new birth like the fleshly birth is from without. You are born of the flesh because there was a seed planted in your mother's womb that gave life.

And you are born from above because the seed came from God. The seed is the Word of God and the begetter is the Spirit of God. He made you live.

You don't go to the church and through your own act or will of the flesh or the will of man or natural generation and get born again. God begets His children. We are born of God. It's a supernatural work that God performs.

Faith is something that God gives us but it is exercised by us. Repentance is the gift of God but we exercise it. Following the Lord is the gift of God but we exercise it.

But, in the new birth; (my friend, I'm sorry) but the new birth is not something you exercise; it is something that God performs and perfects. We are born of God!

Mary says; *"I don't know a man; how can I have a child?"* And a sinner dead in trespasses and sins can say the same thing. "How can I have spiritual life when I am dead in trespasses and sins?"

The Holy Ghost shall come upon you and the power of God; the highest shall overshadow you and that which is born within you shall be the life of God. You say; "Nobody is saying that." There are not too many folks who know that because salvations become a decision of man rather than a miracle of God.

Salvation consists now in walking an aisle or accepting a doctrine or reforming your life. Salvation in the Scripture was a birth, a new creation. Salvation in the Scriptures was a work of God and that's what needs to be preached.

You say; "Well, what will sinners do?" They will go seeking the Lord. They will go crying out for mercy. They will go saying, "Lord, do something for me, don't leave me alone, don't pass me by, and don't leave me in my rebellion: *"But create in me a clean heart. Renew within me a right spirit. Restore my soul."* Do you see that?

So Mary's song, she was highly favored of God; God was with her and blessed her among women. And the power of the highest overshadowed her and life was created in her. No man had anything to do with it. God did it and that life was the Son of God.

"Beloved; now are you sons of God" that's right, sons of God. Sons are born of God; they are not born of men. They are not born of the conniving of men and the plans of men and the purposes of men and the works of men. They are born of God.

Mary began to sing, oh she began to sing; she said, and there are seven verses to this song. Let me see if I can give you all seven of them in the time that we have. She said in **verse 46:** *"My soul doth magnify the Lord."*

Now, my friend; the word "*magnify*" means, to make great, it means to make greater, in other words, we use a microscope and look at something on a slide and we magnify it, that is we make it greater than it is. So, that can't be what we mean here because we can't make God greater than He is.

So, as my soul magnifies God; it doesn't magnify God in the sense that a microscope magnifies a small insect or a small germ. But my soul magnifies God in that my soul has greater thoughts of God. My soul magnifies God in that my soul recognizes the greatness and majesty of my God.

I fear the terrible familiarity with deity. I worry about folks that talk like this; "Me and Jesus got a good thing going." I'm concerned about this familiarity with God when the Scriptures don't speak that way.

Thomas fell down at His feet and cried: *"My Lord and my God."* Job said: *"I saw the Lord and I repented in sackcloth and ashes."* Isaiah said: *"I saw the Lord and I cried; I'm a man of unclean lips."* Daniel said, *"I saw the Lord and my comeliness melted into corruption."*

And every description of a believer in the Old Testament is one that feared the Lord. And the description of the rebels in **Romans 3** is; *"There is no fear of God before their eyes."*

"God is greatly to be feared. God is great and greatly to be feared. The Lord is in his Holy Temple. Let all the earth keep silence. O Lord, my Lord, how excellent is thy name."

And here Mary overcome with joy and overcome with expectation did not forget to magnify the Lord:

"My Lord, how great, how great thou art
When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works that thy hands have made
I cry Oh Lord my God, how great thou art."

Watch out for familiarity with God almighty and deity.

Secondly: In **verse 47** Mary said: *"My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour"*

And my friend, God is my Creator, God is my King, and God is my Sovereign. God is my Judge, and God is my Provider. But that which makes my spirit rejoice is, God is my Saviour.

God came down here in human flesh to be my Saviour. The Son of God became the Son of man. The ancient of days became an infant of days. The eternal God took on Himself human flesh. The giver of the law was made under the law. One with God became one with man.

"Thou shalt call his name Jesus for he shall save his people from their sins. He that knew no sin was made sin for us that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

"The Son of man came to seek and to save." "My spirit, doth rejoice in God my Saviour." He loved me and gave Himself for me. He's my substitute whose blood cleanses me from all sin!

Then, in **verse 48** Mary said*: "He hath regarded the low estate of his handmaid."* Do you know what the word "*handmaid*" means? I will tell you one of the best things that you could buy is a Greek or Hebrew Lexicon, a Concordance. It will give you the meaning of the Hebrew and Greek words.

The word "*handmaid*" means here; female slave. Mary never called herself the mother of God. Elizabeth called her the mother of my Lord but she didn't. She called herself a *"*female slave*."*

She said*: "The Lord hath regarded the low estate."* What is our low estate? Well, *"We were born in sin. We were shapen in iniquity."* We were fallen sons of Adam. We are guilty of sin by choice and by practice.

And God hath regarded our low estate. He hath lifted the beggar from the dunghill. That's where we were, and made us sit among princes and kings. He hath regarded our low estate. Our Lord Jesus Christ was not ashamed to call us brethren.

You know, if your brother was the president of a large company you'd with pride say "that's my brother; right there's my brother." But if your brother is a drunk, an alcoholic, a bum lying in the gutter on skid row, and you and your girlfriend or somebody you are trying to impress walking down the street, you wouldn't point to that bum and say, "that's my brother."

But Christ did. He pointed to this bum in the gutter of the world's worst sinner and said, "that's my brother. I'm not ashamed of my brother." Huh? *"He regarded my low estate."*

Then, Mary said in **verse 49*:*** *"He that is mighty hath done great things to me. Holy is his name."* My friend; He had done great things for us. He loved us and redeemed us but He did it in a way consistent with His holiness, consistent with His righteousness.

Then Mary said in **verse 50;** *"His mercy is upon them that fear him,"* We don't want justice we want mercy. Then Mary said, "*He hath filled the hungry with good things*." He provides for His own.

David said; *"I've been young but now I'm old but I have never seen the seed of God begging bread."* Then Mary said: *"He hath helped me in remembrance of his mercy as he spake to Abraham."*

Our Lord made a covenant with the seed of Abraham who is Christ and that covenant will be fulfilled. Christ said, *"All that the Father giveth me will come to me."*

Where are they? I'm looking for them. I've got good news for sinners. I've got good news for lost people. Christ died for sinners. Christ came to save the lost. Look to Him and be saved and sing this song with Mary!