

Christmas Part 2: God Confirms His Promise

Luke 1:39-56



*Luke 1:39-56
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
Zechariah and
greeted
Elizabeth. 41
And it happened
that 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 be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord." 46 And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord, 47 And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. 48 For He has looked upon the humble state of His slave, 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 a mighty deed with His arm; He has scattered those who were proud in the thoughts of their heart. 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 seed forever." 56 And Mary stayed with her about three months, and then returned to her home.

1) With The Promise of Christmas Comes a Filling. When Mary set out to visit her relative Elizabeth, she took with her the promise of Christmas. Upon greeting Elizabeth, that promise became real in her life when both John the Baptist and his mother Elizabeth were filled with the Holy Spirit. This filling serves to confirm the promise God made earlier to John's father Zechariah and will now serve to confirm the promise God made to Mary concerning Jesus. The promise of Christmas came with a filling of the Holy Spirit to confirm the trustworthiness of God's word. Today, God continues to use the Holy Spirit to confirm His promises concerning Jesus in our lives.

2) With the Promise of Christmas Comes a Blessing. After being filled with the Holy Spirit, Elizabeth pronounced blessings to Mary. Mary was blessed in her status, her work, and her faith. These blessings were both external, as a condition worthy of praise, and internal, as a God-given state of deep well-being. These blessings served to confirm everything God told Mary through his messenger Gabriel. Today, when a person receives the promise of Christmas in their lives, they too become blessed by God. The blessing of this promise is that we become the object of God's divine favor in Christ. This is a reality worthy of praise, and one that comes with a state of eternal well-being.

3) With the Promise of Christmas Comes a Rejoicing. Once the promise of God concerning Jesus was confirmed in her life, Mary responded with a great outpouring of praise to God. She rejoiced in what God had done in her life, in who God is, and in what God was doing in the present. This is what faithful worship looks like in the life of a person who is blessed in their faith. Mary's worship of God looked to the past with a thankful heart, to the present with an encouraged faith, and to the future full of an eager anticipation. Today, we do not need to wait to worship God until He fulfills His promises in our lives, we can worship God all along the way as He confirms His promises every day. He has shown us that He is worthy of our worship past, present, and future.