

The Forgotten Jesus Podcast

S3E26

The Magnificence Of The Magnificat Of Mary - (Luke 1:46-56)

Description – The Magnificat is one of the most profound statements in the Bible about God. Today we'll look at how Mary seamlessly weaves together 17 references from the Old Testament from memory to praise God.

What does Magnificat mean? It's praise and adoration to the Lord.

We're going to look today at Mary's state, what she believes about herself in this moment with Elizabeth.

Notice what Mary doesn't say: "I'm a good person, I've been following the law, I've been waiting for this, I'm a sinless person."

Mary, as a 12-14 year old girl is going to effortlessly weave together 17 old testament scriptures from memory to form this passage.

Luke 1:46-56

⁴⁶ And Mary said: My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ because he has looked with favor on the humble condition of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed, ⁴⁹ because the Mighty One has done great things for me, and his name is holy. ⁵⁰ His mercy is from generation to generation on those who fear him. ⁵¹ He has done a mighty deed with his arm; he has scattered the proud because of the thoughts of their hearts; ⁵² he has toppled the mighty from their thrones and exalted the lowly. ⁵³ He has satisfied the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, remembering his mercy ⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he spoke to our ancestors. ⁵⁶ And Mary stayed with her about three months; then she returned to her home.

There's one example here from the Old Testament that Mary mirrors: Hannah.

1 Samuel 2:1-11

Hannah prayed: My heart rejoices in the LORD; my horn is lifted up by the LORD. My mouth boasts over my enemies, because I rejoice in your salvation. ² There is no one holy like the LORD. There is no one besides you! And there is no rock like our God. ³ Do not boast so proudly, or let arrogant words come out of your mouth, for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and actions are weighed by him. ⁴ The bows of the warriors are broken, but the feeble are clothed with strength. ⁵ Those who are full hire themselves out for food, but those who are starving hunger no more. The woman who is childless gives birth to seven, but the woman with many sons pines away. ⁶ The LORD brings death and gives life; he sends some down to Sheol, and he raises others up. ⁷ The LORD brings poverty and gives wealth; he humbles and he exalts. ⁸ He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the trash heap. He seats them with noblemen

and gives them a throne of honor. For the foundations of the earth are the LORD's; he has set the world on them. ⁹ He guards the steps of his faithful ones, but the wicked perish in darkness, for a person does not prevail by his own strength. ¹⁰ Those who oppose the LORD will be shattered; he will thunder in the heavens against them. The LORD will judge the ends of the earth. He will give power to his king; he will lift up the horn of his anointed. ¹¹ Elkanah went home to Ramah, but the boy served the LORD in the presence of the priest Eli.

Mary knows that God is a humble God. He's looking for humble hearts to serve him. God opposes the proud or the prideful.

God now comes in the humble form of an infant, who's dependent on everyone around him; for food, for protection, for care.

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Adopt the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be exploited. ⁷ Instead he emptied himself by assuming the form of a servant, taking on the likeness of humanity. And when he had come as a man, ⁸ he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death— even to death on a cross. ⁹ For this reason God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow— in heaven and on earth and under the earth— ¹¹ and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

All through Mary's prayer she's pointing to the humility of God, how he lifts up the lowly and the weak, those who rely on his strength.

Connections between Mary's Magnificat to the Old Testament:

1:46 - 1 Samuel 2:1

1:47 - Habakkuk 3:18

1:48 - 1 Samuel 1:11, Genesis 29:32, Genesis 30:13

1:49 - Psalm 126:3

1:50 - Psalm 103:17

1:51 - Psalm 136:12, Psalm 89:10

1:52 - 1 Samuel 2:7, Psalm 113:7

1:53 - Psalm 107:9, 1 Samuel 2:5

1:54 - Isaiah 41:8, 41:14; Psalm 98:3

1:55 - Exodus 32:13, Micah 7:20

So why is it important? Mary is saying, nothing happens by chance with God. She knows that this was going to happen from scripture.

Imagine the scene, a 13-14 year old girl is effortlessly quoting these scriptures together and tying them together to praise the Lord. She's quoting from all over the Old Testament, verses that she's memorized and dedicated to memory.

Shameless plug for parents who want to teach their children:

<https://www.amazon.com/Write-Their-Hearts-Discipling-intentional/dp/1784987743/>

Are we in the Word? Are we memorizing God's Word?