

— Luke 1.39-56 —
Luke's Advent of Christ 3
Mary Visits Elizabeth

Luke 1.39 Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, 40 and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth.

* **Where was** the “hill country” of Judea”? What kind of trip was this for Mary?

41 And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. 42 Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! 43 But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. 45 Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord.”

* **What is** unusual about Mary’s and Elizabeth’s greetings to one another?

* **What is** one of the features of Luke’s advent account, including Gabriel’s announcements to Zacharias and Mary, Elizabeth’s greeting to Mary, Mary’s song, Zacharias’ song, Simeon’s and Ana’s words in the temple, and the angels and shepherds at Jesus’ birth?

46 And Mary said: “My soul magnifies the Lord, 47 And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. 48 For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. 49 For He who is mighty has done great things for me, And holy is His name. 50 And His mercy is on those who fear Him From generation to generation. 51 He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. 52 He has put down the mighty from their thrones, And exalted the lowly. 53 He has filled the hungry with good things, And the rich He has sent away empty. 54 He has helped His servant Israel, In remembrance of His mercy, 55 As He spoke to our fathers,

To Abraham and to his seed forever.” 56 And Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her house.

* **Why is** Mary’s song called the “Magnificat”?

* **In her song**, Mary draws a parallel between what two servants (48, 54)?

* **God’s “mercy”** (50, 54), as set forth in the Hebrew OT (the Hebrew word *hesed*) is God’s never-_____, never-_____, _____-keeping love.

* **Who are** the “lowly” (52), “hungry” (53), and “poor” as used in this kind of context in the Bible?

Psalm 34.6 This poor man cried out, and the LORD heard him, And saved him out of all his troubles.

Psalm 37.14 The wicked have drawn the sword and have bent their bow, to cast down the poor and needy, to slay those who are of upright conduct.

Mat 5.3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit” ... [is paralleled by] 10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake.”

2Pet 2.7 ... Lot ... was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked – for that righteous man, dwelling among them, was tormented in his righteous soul day after day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds

* **Mary, in** her song, is saying that God, through the Messiah, is now beginning to fulfill his promises to cast down the _____, both within Israel and without.

The salvation, reign, and kingdom of Christ will, over time, reverse those fallen dynamics, so that the righteous—those who believe in Christ and seek to obey him—are not slandered, but _____, and are not persecuted and oppressed, but applauded and _____.

As Jesus says in the Beatitudes, those “who hunger and thirst for righteousness” are going to be “_____” (Mt 5.6), and they shall “obtain _____” (7), “see _____” (8), and “inherit the _____” (5). All through the salvation, reign, and kingdom of the Lord Christ Jesus who was in the womb of Mary.