

Advent, 2025
Love
The Magnificat, Part 2
Luke 1:46-55

Quotes and Thoughts

Truths and Challenges from the *Magnificat*

1. **Do not be afraid of mystery** – allow God to grow larger in your heart and mind
2. **God’s blessings are for the humble** – take every opportunity to humble yourself before the Lord and you will be blessed
3. **Beyond all reasoning, the Holy One has done great things for believers through Jesus** – rest in his love for you
4. **God’s love is for the ages** – tell of his mercy in Christ to all who will hear, especially to your children
5. **From the *Great Exchange* to the *Great Reversal*** – never forget that your sufficiency is in Christ
6. **Jesus divides all peoples and all history** – be sure to be on the correct side
7. **God always keeps his promises** – live with an eternal perspective, whether the times be challenging or good

“**My soul magnifies the Lord**, or “My soul makes great the Lord,” or “My soul enlarges the Lord.”

From the sermon: Did Mary fully understand what was happening to her? NO! How could she? But she drew on the Scripture she knew (1 Samuel 1-2, Judges 5, David’s Psalms) and, filled with the Holy Spirit, her soul magnified the Lord. Wait – is it possible to make the Lord larger than he already is? Of course not, but it is much desirable to ask the Lord to magnify himself in your heart and mind. It is a good prayer no matter what our age! When you hear about the Trinity, like you did if you were here last Sunday, resist the temptation to think, “Well, I don’t understand that and I will get frustrated if I try to make sense of it.” Instead, pray something like, “Lord, I do not understand this, but I know it is important because it is a description of who you are. Please help me understand more, in your timing, and cause me to trust you no matter what I do, or don’t, understand. Dear Lord, I magnify you in my soul. Please magnify yourself in my heart and mind.”

Augustine: For those who would learn God’s ways, humility is the first thing, humility is the second, and humility is the third.

It is never a bad thing when the Lord puts you in a place where you have no choice but to be humble. Take every opportunity to humble yourself before the Lord.

Darrell Bock: The Greek word for mercy is *eleos*, translating the Hebrew word *hesed*, “which refers to the loyal, gracious, faithful love that God has in covenant for his people.”

Paul David Tripp: When you are presented with the truth of Christ’s birth, God’s declaration of who he is, the testimony of his miracles and ministry, and his own self-testimony, you cannot be neutral about Jesus. Spiritually, you rise or fall with your response to him. It is not enough to say he was a good prophet and teacher. You either say he is the Messiah Savior and bow before him and cry out for his grace, or you reject him and your need for his grace. You either worship him or you mock him. You either confess your need for him, or you turn in independence away from him. The great line that divides humanity is not political, economic, social, or ethnic. No, the great fault line is Jesus.

Scripture Relating to the Sermon

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.
9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For meditation on Jesus’ role in Creation, in the sustaining of the universe, in the Trinity, and in redemption – ask the Lord to magnify himself in your heart and mind:

Colossians 1:15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. 17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Matthew 11:11 Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. *Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.*

Matthew 5:3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

James 4:6 But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” . . . **4:10** Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2 Corinthians 5:21 For our sake he (God the Father) made him (Jesus) to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Luke 6:20 Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. 21 “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

Luke 2:25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. 27 And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, 28 he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

29 “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;

30 for my eyes have seen your salvation

31 that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.”

33 And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. **34 And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed 35 (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”**

Romans 4:16 That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, 17 as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. 18 In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.”

Galatians 3:7 Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. 8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.” 9 So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

Galatians 3:29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

Galatians 6:16 And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.