

## **The Incarnation Should Lead to Faith and Rejoicing**

### **Luke 1:39-49**

**God's sovereign grace is clearly seen in the life of Mary.**

**Mary was specifically chosen by God.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary.

**Luke 1:26–27 ESV**

**Mary was given grace at just the right time.**

And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!"

**Luke 1:28 ESV**

**Favored one:** *χαριτώ (charitōō) to show kindness to someone, with the implication of graciousness on the part of the one showing such kindness—'to show kindness, to manifest graciousness toward, kindness, graciousness, grace.'*

Johannes P. Louw and Eugene Albert Nida, *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament: Based on Semantic Domains* (New York: United Bible Societies, 1996), 748.

In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

**Ephesians 1:4–6 ESV**

but Paul chose Silas and departed, having been commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord.

**Acts 15:40 ESV**

**Unlike Zachariah, Mary did not question God's gracious declaration.**

**Zachariah questioned the veracity of the Word of God.**

And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years."

**Luke 1:18 ESV**

**Mary's faith led to complete submission even though the "why" or "how" were not clear.**

And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. **Luke 1:34–35 ESV**

**Mary's submission flowed from a right understanding of who she was before Holy God.**

And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

**Luke 1:38 ESV**

**Servant:** *a female slave—'slave girl, slave woman.*

Johannes P. Louw and Eugene Albert Nida, *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament: Based on Semantic Domains* (New York: United Bible Societies, 1996), 741.

**Mary's faith and submission were grounded in God's faithful Word through the holy messenger.**

For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

**Luke 1:44–45 ESV**

**The angel confirmed the prophecy of Isaiah to Mary.**

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. **Isaiah 7:14 ESV**

**The angel confirmed that the child to be born would be the everlasting son of David and will sit on his throne.**

"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will

give to him the throne of his father David,  
and he will reign over the house of Jacob  
forever, and of his kingdom there will be no  
end.” **Luke 1:32–33 ESV**

**Mary’s song flows from her faith and trust in the Mighty  
Word of God.**

**Mary is moved to sing that which she has already  
hidden in her heart.**

And blessed is she who believed that there would be  
a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the  
Lord.” **Luke 1:45 ESV**

**Mary had memorized the song of Hannah and it  
becomes part of her song.**

**1 Samuel 2:1-10**

**Mary also quotes other Psalms in her song.**

My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the  
humble hear and be glad. Oh, magnify the  
LORD with me, and let us exalt his name  
together! **Psalms 34:2–3 ESV**

**Mary declares that her spirit/soul is overwhelmed by  
the Lord.**

And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
**Luke 1:46–47 ESV**

**Mary uses Hebrew parallelism (a common  
lyrical tool) to describe her overflowing joy.**

**Parallelism is using different ways to say  
the same thing.**

**One example:**

The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its  
master’s crib, but Israel does not know, my  
people do not understand.”

**Isaiah 1:3 ESV**

**Mary is describing how her heart is  
overwhelmed with the goodness and grace of  
God.**

*Those, and those only, are advanced in mercy, who are thereby brought to think the more highly and honourably of God*

Matthew Henry, *Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible: Complete and Unabridged in One Volume* (Peabody: Hendrickson, 1994), 1824.

I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving. This will please the LORD more than an ox or a bull with horns and hoofs.

**Psalm 69:30–31 ESV**

**Mary declares that God is her Savior and her Lord.**

for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant...

**Luke 1:48 ESV**

**Mary needed a Savior because of her humble estate (pregnant out of wedlock).**

And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

**Matthew 1:19–20 ESV**

**Mary needed a Savior because she is a child of Adam with inherited sin.**

*Those that have Christ for their God and Saviour have a great deal of reason to rejoice.*

Matthew Henry, *Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible: Complete and Unabridged in One Volume* (Peabody: Hendrickson, 1994), 1824.

**Mary was blessed that God would use her, a lowly child of Adam to be the vessel through which the Messiah would come.**

for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

**Luke 1:48–49 ESV**

**Though just a woman, Mary was the only woman in history to ever bear a child who would bear her sin.**

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 (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.” **Luke 2:34–35 ESV**

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!”

**John 19:26 ESV**

**Behold:** *prompters of attention, which serve also to emphasize the following statement—‘look, listen, pay attention, come now, then.’*

Johannes P. Louw and Eugene Albert Nida, *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament: Based on Semantic Domains* (New York: United Bible Societies, 1996), 811.

**As the mother of the Messiah, Mary had the special privilege that no other woman has ever had and yet even that was not enough to merit salvation for her.**

As he said these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, “Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!” But he said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!”

**Luke 11:27–28 ESV**

**Does the grace of God overwhelm your soul or has it become too common to you?**

**Have you submitted your soul to the Savior?**

**Will you seek to submit your life to Jesus even though it is a call to sacrificial living?**