

A Teenager's Christmas Song

Luke 1:46-55

Have you ever wondered, what the true spirit of Christmas is? Is it the houses decked with Christmas ornaments? Is it giving and receiving gifts? Is it going out of one's way to exert extra effort to love and care and being nice to people?

Tucked in the first two chapters of Luke are five songs that celebrate Christ's birth: the song of Elizabeth (Luke 1:42-45); the song of Mary (Luke 1:46-55); the song of Zechariah (Luke 1:68-79); the song of the angels (Luke 2:14) and the song of Simeon in Luke 2:29-32. And in all those songs, the overarching theme is worship to God. Worship, then, is the true spirit of Christmas. Mary's worship song contains three things:

1. *Mary worships God by _____ His gracious _____*

Mary's soul magnifies the Lord and her spirit has rejoiced in God her Savior. The terms soul and spirit (which are synonymous) speaks of her inner person. Mary worships God with her whole being (Psa. 103:1). It is not the fake worship that Jesus speaks about in Matt.15:8-9 (cf. Isa. 29:13). Her worship is focused on God (Luke 4:8, 1 Tim. 1:17), for God alone is her/our Savior. Like the rest of us, Mary was born in sin and stood in utter need of a Savior. Redemption from sin is man's ultimate need and without redemption, man continues to live in hopelessness and misery (Eph. 2:2-3;12). But God, sent His son, Jesus Christ to be born a child and be given as the savior (Isa. 9:6). He is Immanuel, God with us (Isa. 7:14-15). He is given the name Jesus to save His people from their sins (Matt. 1:21).
Mary was humbled for God to regard (to look upon with favor) her lowly state.

2. *Mary worships God by _____ His generous _____*

Mary was absolutely overwhelmed with what the Lord was doing for her and what the Lord would do for generations to come. She sees that God's grace and mercy is to be revealed to every generation. Mercy is God's love shown to the guilty sinners who are miserable in their sinful condition (Exo. 3:7; 34:6-7; cf. Deut. 4:31). God is merciful to those who fear Him (Neh. 9:17; Psa. 103:8; 116:5; Jer. 3:12). Mary praises the Lord because He did not come to reach out to the proud and the mighty (Matt. 5:3; Phil. 2:3; Eph. 4:2; 1 Pet 5:5-6; James 4:6).

3. *Mary worships God by _____ on His glorious _____*

Mary traces God's mercy all the way to Abraham. She realized that the Child she was carrying was the fulfillment of a promise that went back to Abraham (Gen. 12, 15, 17). She understood that the connection between her and Abraham is the covenant that God first made with Adam in the Garden of Eden, promising Adam of a savior (Gen. 3:15). Mary sees the faithfulness of God in keeping His covenant promise. The Lord still keeps His promises. He can be trusted in every situation in life. Whether it be for salvation (2 Tim. 1:12) or for daily provision (Phil. 4:19). God will do what He has said He will do (Matt. 28:20; Heb. 13:5).

Do you have the same heart that was in Mary? Do you have the spirit of Christmas within you? If Jesus is in your heart, you'll be able to sing and worship like Mary and then your celebrations will be wonderful and meaningful.