

Transforming Daily
“ . . . my soul magnifies the Lord . . . ”
Luke 1:46

This verse and the following verses through v.55, referred to as Mary’s song, is a testimony by Mary on behalf of God for the physical indwelling of Jesus Christ (immaculate inception). Mary has come to the realization that God has chosen her to bare the Christ child. Immediately she is aware of God’s greatness and her lowliness. In light of that realization, she magnifies the Lord, that is, she praises Him in song. Though this is a physical indwelling of God (pregnancy) it is also a spiritual event. Her praise reflects her humility and God’s sovereignty. For all practical purposes, albeit a physical indwelling, her testimony of praise is exactly the magnification that all believers should offer to God for the spiritual indwelling of God, by the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ.

What does it mean here for Mary to magnify the Lord? In this context, Mary was directing her attention as well as the attention of all who would hear her song to the sovereign attributes and characteristics of God. Mary was purposefully drawing attention to the grace, mercy, loving-kindness, judgment, justice and covenant keeping of God. She realized that it was not of her own merit that brought this thing to pass. She knew that God was acting according to His own good pleasure. Her only response was to believe and receive.

Mary’s song is a good example for all believers to follow in praise. Realizing that it is not of the believer’s own merit that the indwelling of Christ occurred at salvation, but that it is according to the good pleasure of God as the believer believed and received, a song of praise should burst forth from our hearts. The believer’s praise should draw everyone’s attention to the salvation of God through Jesus Christ. Does your heart bare a song of praise to God for your salvation? Are your lips ready to speak or sing His praise? Do you still sense that growing excitement that you first sensed at your spiritual conversion? The believer’s spiritual disciplines and personal life’s choices should reflect the very heart of Mary’s claim that my soul magnifies the Lord.