

MAGNIFICAT
Luke 1:46-56
Jelšava, 25 December 2021

Καὶ εἶπεν Μαριάμ, Μεγαλύνει ἡ ψυχὴ μου τὸν κύριον, ⁴⁷ καὶ ἠγαλλίασεν τὸ πνεῦμά μου ἐπὶ τῷ θεῷ τῷ σωτήρῳ μου, ⁴⁸ ὅτι ἐπέβλεψεν ἐπὶ τὴν ταπεινῶσιν τῆς δούλης αὐτοῦ. ἰδοὺ γὰρ ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν μακαριοῦσιν με πᾶσαι αἱ γενεαί, ⁴⁹ ὅτι ἐποίησέν μοι μεγάλα ὁ δυνατός. καὶ ἅγιον τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ, ⁵⁰ καὶ τὸ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ εἰς γενεὰς καὶ γενεὰς τοῖς φοβουμένοις αὐτόν. ⁵¹ Ἐποίησεν κράτος ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, διεσκόρπισεν ὑπερηφάνους διανοίᾳ καρδίας αὐτῶν. ⁵² καθεῖλεν δυνάστας ἀπὸ θρόνων καὶ ὕψωσεν ταπεινοὺς, ⁵³ πεινῶντας ἐνέπλησεν ἀγαθῶν καὶ πλουτοῦντας ἐξαπέστειλεν κενούς. ⁵⁴ ἀντελάβετο Ἰσραὴλ παιδὸς αὐτοῦ, μνησθήναι ἐλέους, ⁵⁵ καθὼς ἐλάλησεν πρὸς τοὺς πατέρας ἡμῶν, τῷ Ἀβραάμ καὶ τῷ σπέρματι αὐτοῦ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. ⁵⁶ Ἐμείνεν δὲ Μαριάμ σὺν αὐτῇ ὡς μῆνας τρεῖς, καὶ ὑπέστρεψεν εἰς τὸν οἶκον αὐτῆς

Luke 1:46-56 And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on 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 for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; ⁵² he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; ⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away. ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever." ⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

Psalm 34:4

גְּדַלְךָ לַיהוָה אֲתִי וְגִדְלוֹתָי יַחְדָּם

Psalm 34:3 Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!

0. INTRODUCTION

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0. INTRODUCTION

0.1 THE PROTESTANTS AND MARY

- Mediatrix; Dispensatrix...??
- Reaction to “Mariology” → silence (at best) “No area of Roman Catholic theology has received more attention in this debate than the role accorded and the devotion paid to the Virgin Mary.”¹
- “blessed” → how?

0.2 MARY – A “SINGLE MOTHER”

- About 177 AD the Greek philosopher Celsus, in his book ‘The True Word’, expressed what appears to have been the consensus of Jewish opinion about Jesus, that his father was a Roman soldier called Pantera. ‘Pantera’ means Panther and was a fairly common name among Roman soldiers. The rumour is repeated in the Talmud and in medieval Jewish writings where Jesus is referred to as “Yeshu ben Pantera”.²
- Mary: “Theotokos” → Is the doctrine that Mary was born without the stain of original sin scriptural? We will answer this in the words of The Catholic Encyclopedia itself: “No direct or categorical and stringent proof of the dogma can be brought forward from Scripture. It is pointed out, rather, that these ideas were a gradual development within the church.”³
- Prayers to Mary? → **Isaiah 63:16** For you are our Father, though Abraham does not know us, and Israel does not acknowledge us; you, O LORD, are our Father, our Redeemer from of old is your name (אַבְרָהָם לֹא יָדָעֵנוּ וְיִשְׂרָאֵל לֹא יִכְרִינֵנוּ) .

0.3 MARY – FULL OF GRACE

- **Luke 1:26-28** In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favoured one, the Lord is with you!" (Χαίρει, κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ κύριος μετὰ σοῦ)
- (Ephesians 1:6 εἰς ἕπαινον δόξης τῆς χάριτος αὐτοῦ ἧς ἐχαρίτωσεν ἡμᾶς ἐν τῷ ἡγαπημένῳ) to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved

0.4 MARY – INSPIRED

- Ps 33; 47; 48; 113; 135; 136’ 1Sa 2:1–10; Jon 2:3–10; Is 38:9–20;
- **Luke 1:39-45** In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰ and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴² and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³ And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

1. JESUS - DIVIDING LOYALTIES

- Romans 9:33 "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

¹ Stephen Benko, *The Virgin Goddess*, Brill, 2004.

² <https://robinhl.com/2011/11/06/jesus-son-of-pantera/> (24 December 2021)

³ Ralph Woodrow, *Babylon Mystery Religion*, Ralph Woodrow Evangelistic Association, 1966.

- → Mk 12:1-11

1.1 THE PROUD OF MIND → “PHILOSOPHY”

- v. 51 scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts
- free thought; philosophies; religions; self-designed worldviews...
- Jesus → despised; counted among sinners;

1.2 THE MIGHTY → “POLITICS”

- v. 52 he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
- political power; personal imperia;
- Jesus → the King

1.3 THE RICH → “ECONOMY”

- v. 52 the rich he has sent empty away
- wealth as safety; independence; “omnipotence”
- Jesus → the treasure of the Kingdom

1.4 AN INDICTMENT OF ALL OF US

- (1) everyone has a philosophy; (opinions; knowledge; experience; arguments...)
- (2) everyone as an imperium; (body; workshop, family; library; firm...)
- (3) everyone has some riches (money; success; skills; self-esteem...)

2. JESUS – MARY’S RESPONSE

- ...and what is your response?

2.1 NEW CREATION

- v.49 ...he who is mighty has done great things for me (ἐποίησέν μοι μεγάλα) and holy is his name
- → new humanity; new heaven, new earth (Book of Revelation)

2.2 JESUS INSIDE US

- v. 48 from now on all generations will call me blessed
- Jesus in Mary’s womb → chosen for the beginning of NEW REALITY → Colossians 1:15-16 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.
- Jesus in your spirit → John 14:23 Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

2.3 SOUL → GIVING

voluntary

- v. 46 "My soul magnifies the Lord (Μεγαλύνει ἡ ψυχὴ μου τὸν κύριον,) ,
- **the LORD** → **Acts 17:28** In him we live and move and have our being’;
- → WORSHIP the Creator

2.4 SPIRIT → RECEIVING

intuitive;

- v. 47 my spirit rejoices in God my Savior (σωτηρί μου)
- the SAVIOUR → regeneration... 1 Peter 1:8-9 Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is

inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹ obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls

- → REJOICE in the Saviour

3. TO REMEMBER

- Jesus is divisive → face it!
- Receiving him means to lay down your personal philosophy, your imperium, your riches.
- Receiving Jesus today means opening to his resurrected life in the Holy Spirit. Jesus comes in, not as a child but as the KING.