

Luke 1:39-55—Mary's Song of Trust

I. The anxiety of the unknown (context found in *Luke 1:26-38*)

- a. Consider the process for Mary to take it all in
- b. Greatly troubled (v. 29) (perhaps world's biggest understatement)
- c. The 'normal' life she may have expected to have was turned upside down (sometimes we went to settle for less because it's safe when God has something bigger for us)

II. Accepting the call (from anxiety to acceptance)

- a. Her journey moved from greatly troubled to 'may it be to me as you have said'; from anxiety to acceptance
- b. Acceptance does not equate to joyous enthusiasm; it's "okay, have it your way God."
- c. Her encounter with the angel and all the repercussions—she displayed trust, but we have to imagine some 'what-ifs' snuck into her thinking at certain times
- d. But any 'what-ifs' did not lead to doubtful disobedience; sometimes trust is not easy and may initially seem painful, but we try to take it

III. The Journey of both the suffering and the grace

- a. When we journey with God, sometimes we have to hold in tension that experiencing God's grace (his work, his miracles, etc.) go hand in hand with discomfort and suffering
- b. Mary saw God at work in her life in a way that would bring awe while at the same time would involve challenges and even suffering
 - i. Immaculate conception in tandem with scandal
 - ii. Seeing God's miracle in her life while her fiancé seeks to divorce her
 - iii. Traveling while pregnant twice; seeing her elderly relative with child
 - iv. She would have faced loneliness, uncertainty, fear and yet also faced God

IV. Adoring the Lord (from acceptance to adoration)

- a. Perhaps Elizabeth's words (vv.42-45) influenced Mary's perspective on her situation
- b. In the midst of seeing God at work even in the pain and misery of life; Mary was moved to worship
- c. Focus is on what God has done and is doing
 - i. How he uses the humble (like Mary) (but are available)
- d. Focus on ultimate justice
 - i. Even in the midst of her world of injustice, because she saw God at work, she knew this God can complete these tasks
 - ii. God's promises and plans will be carried out
- e. Can your soul glorify the Lord even in the midst of uncertainties and struggles because you can see God at work in the midst of them?