

**A Psalm of Mary – Luke 1:39-56**  
*James Muldoon - Carey Baptist Church – 7 December 2008*

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Introduction

- What are a few practical things you can do to help you remember a message?
- What is this morning's passage all about?

i Rejoicing in God's presence (v39-45)

- Where does Mary go in **v39-40**?
- How far was it?
- Why does she go?
- What two things happen when Elizabeth hears Mary's voice?
  - (i)
  - (ii)
- There are two ways in which the New Testament often uses the expression to be "filled with the Spirit":
  - (i) How do **Acts 6:3**, **Acts 11:24** and **Ephesians 5:18** use it?
  - (ii) How do **Acts 4:8**, **Acts 4:31** and **Acts 7:55** use it?
- Which of these two ways applies to Elizabeth in **v41-45**?
- What is markedly absent from Elizabeth's words?
- What should the fact that Christ came 2000 years ago do to us?
- What things often distract us from making him centre stage, especially at Christmas time?

ii Rejoicing in God's deeds (v46-56)

- What is the best way to understand a song in the Bible?
- What does Mary express in **v46-47**?
- Why is Mary rejoicing in **v48-49**?
- Where does **v50** put the spotlight?
- What does **v51-53** give three examples of?

- What, according to **v54-55**, gives Mary confidence that all this will happen?
- What does Mary do in **v56**?
- Taking the song as a whole, then, what spirit does Mary display throughout?
- What should you do if you do not feel much joy in the Lord?
- How does **I Corinthians 11:23-26** prove that you should do that?
- Taking the song as a whole again, what do you notice about Mary's words?
- Here are four Bible passages which we might want to use in prayer. What characteristic of God does each describe?

(i) **Jeremiah 32:17.**

(ii) **Isaiah 6:3.**

(iii) **II Corinthians 1:3.**

(iv) **Lamentations 3:22-23.**

- Why is it helpful to use words of Scripture in prayer?
- How does Mary describe God in **v47-48**?
- How did God become her Saviour?
- How can people today know God as Saviour?