



Magnify Mary or the Lord?

Lesson 1 • Luke 1:26-38

Overview of the Passage

- The **ANNUNCIATION** ("announcement") by the Angel Gabriel to Mary. (vv. 26-38)
- The **VISITATION** by Mary to Her Relative Elizabeth. (vv. 39-45)
- The **MAGNIFICATION** (Latin: "magnificat") of the LORD by Mary in song. (vv. 46-56)

Mary's LifeSong Was to MAGNIFY the LORD not Herself!

Mary's Song Poured Forth from Mary's Life: *Her LifeSong Was to Magnify the LORD!*

Background on Mary

- "Mary" was one of the most **COMMON** names for women at the time of Christ.
- There are possibly **SEVEN** different Mary's in New Testament.
 1. *Mary the mother of Jesus* (Mt 1:16, 18, 20, 24; 2:11; 13:55; Mk 6:3; Lk 1:27, 30, 34, 38-39, 41, 46, 56; 2:5, 16, 19, 34; Acts 1:14)
 2. *Mary Magdalene* (Healed of seven demons; Mt 27:56, 61; 28:1; Mk 15:40, 47; 16:1, 9; Lk 8:2; 24:10; J 19:25; 20:1, 11, 16, 18)
 3. *Mary the mother of James and Joseph* (Mt 27:56, 61; 28:1, "the other Mary"?; Mk 15:40, 47; 16:1; Lk 24:10)
 4. *Mary the wife of Clopas* (But might be the same as #3? Jn 19:25)
 5. *Mary the sister of Martha and Lazarus from Bethany* (Lk 10:39, 42; Jn 11:1-2, 19-20, 28, 31-32, 45; 12:3)
 6. *Mary the mother of John Mark whose hosted the early church* (Acts 12:12-13; cf. Col 4:10; Upper Room?)
 7. *Mary the hard worker for the church at Rome* (Rom 16:6)
- By far the **MOST** mentioned Mary is the young mother (13 yrs?) of Jesus.

Two Extremes in Church History: Make **TOO MUCH** or Make **TOO LITTLE** of Mary.

Extreme #1 The *Roman Catholic Church, High Anglicans, and Orthodox Church* make *too much* of Mary:

- **Immaculate Conception** (1854) – *Mary was without a sin nature or original sin at the instant of being conceived.*

At Least 7 Reasons in this Passage Alone that Show Mary Was a Sinner Saved by Grace:

1. Mary needed a personal **SAVIOR**. (1:47)
2. Mary needed to receive **GRACE**. (1:28, 30, cf. 42, 45)
3. Mary needed to **BELIEVE**. (1:45)
4. Mary needed to **MERCY**. (1:50, 54)
5. Mary needed to **FEAR** God. (1:50)
6. Mary needed to **SUBMIT** to God. (1:38, 48)
7. Mary needed **HELP** from the Mighty One, Holy is His name. (1:49, 54)

- **Perpetual Virginity** (553, 649) – *Mary remained a virgin until her death. Matthew 1:25; 13:54-58; Mark 6:3.*
- **Bodily Assumption** (1950) – *Mary died but was immediately raised bodily into heaven.*
- **Co-Mediatrix and Co-Redemptrix** (1894, 1896) – *Mary mediates, intercedes, and redeems with Jesus Himself.*
Facebook Page: "*Blessed Virgin Mary as Co-redemptrix and Mediatrix of All Graces*"
See Handout: *Examples of Roman Catholic Exaltation of Mary*

Mary Was a Faithful Disciple but Not a Sinless One or Worthy to Be Worshipped with Christ

1. Jesus **REPROVES** her for expecting a miracle at the wedding. (*John 2:1-11*)
2. Jesus **REBUKES** her and His siblings for trying to control Him and limit His ministry. (*Mark 3:20-22, 31-35; Matt 12:46-50*)
3. Jesus **REFUSES** to raise her above any other disciple. (*Luke 11:27-28*)
4. Jesus does **RECOGNIZE** her as His mother to honor her not exalt her. (*John 19:26-27*)

Where Did These False Doctrines Flow From?

Latin Vulgate Translation of *Luke 1:28* reflected in the *Douay-Rheims Catholic Bible*
"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women."

The Serpent in the Garden *Who Is the Accuser and Adversary!*

Hail Mary • Ave Maria
 Hail Mary, Full of Grace,
 The Lord is with thee.
 Blessed art thou among women,
 and blessed is the fruit
 of thy womb, Jesus.
 Holy Mary, Mother of God,
 pray for us sinners now,
 and at the hour of death.
 Amen.

Extreme #2 Protestants and Baptists make too little of Mary.

- By God's grace she was *chosen* to do what **NO OTHER** women will ever do! (*1:28, 30; Genesis 3:15*)
Gabriel the Angel (1:28-33)
- By God's grace she was *blessed* to **BELIEVE** God for the impossible! (*1:34-38, 42-43*)
Elizabeth Her Relative (1:41-45)

We Don't Venerate Mary as Equal to the Lord; We IMITATE Her Faith in Magnifying the Lord.

All four of these *false doctrines magnify Mary INSTEAD* of magnifying the Lord!

They *diminish* the grace of God. • They *downgrade* Christ as unique. • They *deify* Mary as an idol to worship.

But Due to the Amazing Grace of Our Triune God...

- Mary will always be blessed **among women**: *There's only one "seed of a woman" and mother of our Incarnate Lord!*
- Mary was blessed to **carry the incarnate God** in her womb: *Her womb was like a Holy of Holies!*
- Mary is blessed because she **put her faith** in the Triune God and His gracious promises to her: *You too can be blessed as a believer like Mary who is a model believer not the mediator for believers!*

Believe Like Mary, So Your LifeSong Will Magnify the Lord like Mary!