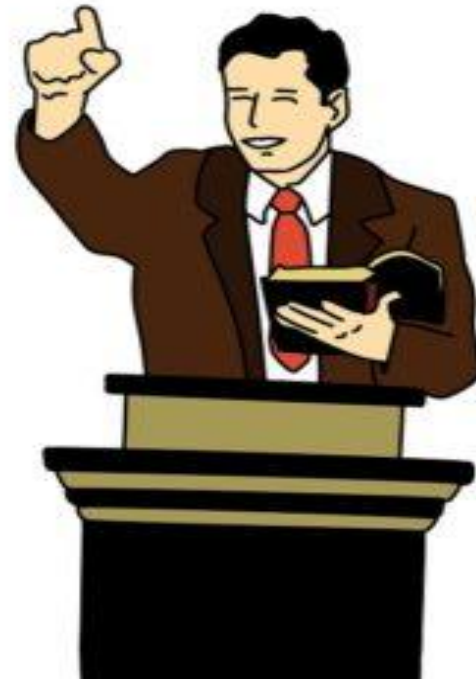


Luke 1:39-45

4 Descriptions Of Applied Faith In Jesus



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Context/Background

- Author: Luke
- Audience: Gentile audience
- Atmosphere: Luke records the meeting of two mothers who lived out faith in God and brought great blessings
- Elizabeth: mother of John the Baptist
- Mary: mother of Jesus
- Biblically: Saving Faith (Eph. 2:9) / Sustaining Faith (2 Corinthians 5:7)

Applied Faith Is Active And Enduring

- (vv. 39-40) Mary given word by angel Gabriel she would be the mother of the Messiah
- She quickly acted upon the word even though it wasn't easy; traveled from Nazareth to hill country of Judah (Hebron?)
- Mary put faith into action; lived word out
- Biblical Faith: Believing God and His word and living it out despite what our senses, circumstances, or society tells us

- James 2:17, “Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.”
- 2 Cors. 5:7, “For we walk by faith, not by sight.”



Applied Faith Connects Us To Supernatural Power

- (vv. 41-42) Mary and Elizabeth greet one another
- When Mary's "hellos" heard, Elizabeth's baby jumped for joy (while still in womb)
- Word "leaped" – "to leap or jump for joy, excited leaping from joy and gladness"
- Elizabeth; filled with Holy Spirit and declared blessings on Mary and Jesus
- Word "blessed" – "to speak well of, to praise"

- Must be careful; Catholic Church uses verses to say Mary was sinless and divine
- Many reasons this cannot be true:
 - Universal Sinlessness: (Rom. 3:23) All have sinned, no exemptions
 - Word Source: not one example of “blessed” meaning “sinless”
 - Ritual Purification: (Luke 2:22-24) After giving birth, Mary went through cleansing ritual as prescribed by the Law
 - Admission of Need of Savior: (Luke 1:47) Mary recognizes Jesus as Savior and her need for Him

Applied Faith Is Jesus Centered And Focused

- (vv. 43-44) All through meeting, focus and priority is on God and His plan
- Not one hint or selfishness, vanity, or jealousy
- Mary and Elizabeth; humble, servant minded, and overwhelmed God would use them to accomplish Kingdom work
- Both had much on their mind, but put God First

- Prov. 31:30, “Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, but a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised.”
- I Peter 3:3-4, “Do not let your adornment be merely outward – arranging hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel – rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God.”



Applied Faith Is The Pathway To Genuine Fulfillment

- (v. 45) Luke shows, Mary “blessed” because of her faith that was lived out (Elizabeth also blessed due to faith)
- Word, “fulfillment” – “a completing, the achievement of predictions and promises”
- Elizabeth and Mary believed God’s word and lived it out, and they both experienced the completion of that word
- Everything happened exactly like God said it would

- I John 5:4, “For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith.”

