

Scripture: Exodus 20:1-17 & Luke 1:26-45

Singing: 448:1-2 -- 123:1 – 188:1-4 – 115:4 – 450:2 – 73:5-6

A. The story of Mary and Elizabeth

1. Mary's action after *the angel departed from her?* (vs. 38-40)

2. Mary's reception at Elizabeth's house. (vs. 40-44)

3. Elizabeth's amazing truths are Spirit-given (vs. 42-45)

Elizabeth's Exultation

1) Praised God's Grace 2) Praised God's Christ 3) Declared God's Promise

I. Her Spirit-filled Testimony praised God's Grace

A. There is a difference in 'blessed' in vs. 42 & 45.

B. Elizabeth began with the *praising of God's grace* (vs. 42a)

1. Her praise were a not focused on Mary but the God of Mary

a. Mary was not a special woman to receive this (vs. 47-48)

b. Mary was a sovereignly favored woman to receive this (vs. 28)

C. Elizabeth's praise is God's message to us: *I am the God of grace!*

1. God coming in Christ is *all and only grace* (vs. 78)

2. Grace is the only level where God meets with unworthy sinners

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Heb. 4:14-16)

II. Elizabeth exalts God's Christ for a sinner

A. Elizabeth exalts the child in Mary's womb

1. God's gift is not a thing but a Person: *the Son of the Highest* (vs. 32)

2. God's gift in the Christ-child is glorious and inviting: *He is the Door*
 - a. for God to come to us (Gal. 4:4-5)

 - b. for us to come to God (John 6:35-37)

B. Is God 'preparing' you to come to Christ? (Luke 1:16-17)

III. Elizabeth's exultation declares God's promise

A. The 'blessed' in 45 is not *praise* but '*preaching*'

1. You are blessed if you are a believer like Mary: vs. 38
 - a. Mary believed the 'impossible with men' (vs. 31, 37)

 - b. Her struggle with "*How shall this be ...*" is common

 - c. God enabled her to surrender (or trust) on His Word alone (38)

2. Is her picture of trust your picture: *on Thy Word do I hope?*

B. If so, you are blessed: vs. 45

1. God shall be the performer (fulfiller) of His promises

2. God calls us to wait on Him and be of good courage (Ps. 27:13-14)