

Luke 1:39-56: Rejoice.

1. (39-45) Mary's visit to Elizabeth.

The miraculous conception of John the Baptist occurred, an angel announced to Mary about her Holy Spirit conceived Son, Joseph's suspicion of Mary being unfaithful, intending to quietly separate from her was answered. The relationship is back on track, the wedding happened (a few days of feasting); Joseph and Mary is a privileged couple. God has done the miraculous and has proved His faithfulness to His people.

2. (46-56) Mary's song of rejoicing to the Lord.

This song has at least 12 other references to the Old Testament. This song mainly celebrates God's goodness, faithfulness, and power.

Rejoice: be filled with joy again and again, be exceedingly glad, take delight in, be very happy, revel, celebrate, enjoy, glory, joy, triumph, be glad, be overjoyed, jump for joy, make merry...

There are those who rejoice because its holiday time, in gifts received, in bonuses from employers, places to go and of course good food...and in everything else that happens around Christmas time. All those won't last.

Philippians 3:3 - *For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.*

We don't have to wait until all our desires are met, plans are accomplished or until all our dreams come true. Everything outside rejoicing in Christ will leave us unfulfilled, longing for more.

Philippians 4:4 - *Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!*

1 Thessalonians 5:16 - *Rejoice always.*