

HUMILITY OF MARY

Luke 1:46 “And Mary said, ‘My soul exalts the Lord (worship of Mary for the Lord Jesus Christ),”

Luke 1:47 “And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.” Mary rejoices over her salvation for she was a sinner saved by God’s grace.

Luke 1:48 “For He has had regard for the **humble state** of His bonds slave; For behold, from this time on all generations will count me blessed.” Mary calls herself a bonds slave to indicate her service to Christ. She is counted blessed because she is to be the mother of the incarnate Savior.

1. The word for “humble state” in Luke 1:18 in the Greek is TAPEINOPHROSUNE.
 - It is the opposite of human pride and arrogance where someone tries to draw from themselves all the ability and energy they need to live successfully in the devil’s world and please God.
2. Christ’s work on the cross stripped human pride of its honor and proved that it is not worthy of God’s righteousness.
3. TAPEINOPHROSUNE involves repentance (change of attitude) and belief for the unbelieving sinner. It involves confession of sin for the believer.
4. TAPEINOPHROSUNE is to habitually do the JUST and righteous things in a quiet way unnoticed by others.
5. This word is not indifference or apathy, or modesty, or hooked up with self-righteousness or self-effacing attitudes. Rather TAPEINOPHROSUNE in the Word of God is described in Philippians 2:3 where the person has the attitude of giving of himself through the filling of the Holy Spirit.
6. It is an unselfish attitude of giving to everyone; it has a sense of Divine Justice in it, to behave in an unassuming manner. Acts 20:19; Ephesians 4:2; Philippians 2:3; Colossians 2:18, 23; 3:12; 1 Peter 5:5; 2 Corinthians 7:6; James 1:9; 4:6, “where God gives grace to the humble.”
7. Therefore, MARY realized that the Lord recognized the humility of her soul and she is impressed that He notices it.

Omnipotence is the power of God, His ability to control things, and have things well in hand. She appreciates her Lord for He means security to her, no surprises, never changes, He has power to do anything and Mary accepts this.

This is linked to HIS WILL, He makes her know what HE EXPECTS from her, she is to accept His policies and opinions for they are RIGHTEOUS and JUST.

Luke 1:49 “For the Mighty One has done great things for me; And holy is His name.” Mary recognizes the protection of the Lord over her life and she praises His holiness (righteousness and justice) operating in her life.

Luke 1:50 “And His **mercy** is upon generation after generation toward those who fear Him.” Mary recognizes the eternal mercy of the Lord upon the Jewish people who fear or respect Him.

1. Mercy is God’s attitude of grace towards the sins of man and the faults of man based upon the work of Christ on the cross. God has overlooked your faults so that He can love you as one of His believers in Christ. He loves the Son therefore He loves the believer.
2. Mercy is Grace in Action.
 - A. When Christians understand grace then guilt of past sins is removed. He recognizes and accepts the forgiveness of the Lord and does not focus upon his sins. He does not live with a guilt complex.
 - B. The Christian wife appreciates her right man (husband) and does not focus upon his past failures. She is showing him mercy and seeks to assist him.
3. Not only does God forgive and forget but He shows us how to develop new life patterns so that we will not fall into the same fault again.
4. Summary of Mercy: It is the divine attitude towards misery and the desire to help the one in it.
5. A thoughtful man considers the comfort of the wife on a vacation, in home setting, her comfort in social realm, and if she is miserable then he does all he can to alleviate it.

Luke 1:51 “He has done mighty deeds with His arm; He has scattered those who were proud in the thoughts of their heart.” Mary appreciates the Lord for He deals with pride and arrogance and His enemies. God will not be pushed around. He is Almighty and has the final word in all matters. Mary rejoices in this truth.

1. She knows the Lord protects her and her reputation.
2. He knocks down the arrogant ones, UPEREPHANOUS— those who “think above” themselves or have a false assurance based on human pride or ability. Some were attacking Mary and Joseph for the pregnancy out of wedlock. These arrogant people did not understand the will of God.

Luke 1:52 —“He has brought down rulers from their thrones, And has exalted those who were humble.” Mary recognizes that the Lord exalts the ones who can’t exalt themselves. Mary did not have the means to be powerful and influential but the Lord promoted her above all of those who did at that time.

Luke 1:53— “ He has filled the hungry with good things; and sent away the rich empty-handed.” Mary recognizes that the Lord supplies her needs.

Luke 1:54— “He has given help to Israel His servant, in remembrance of His mercy.” Mary recognizes that the Lord helps His people because of His great mercy. Our God is a merciful and loving God!

Luke 1:55 “As he spoke to our fathers (Old Testament Hebrews), To Abraham and his descendants forever.”

Luke 1:56 “And Mary stayed with her (Elizabeth) about three months, and then returned to her home.”