

Mary's Song

The Virgin Mary isn't afraid to call it like she sees it. In her song of praise (Luke 1:46b-55) she sees the birth of Jesus accomplishing three acts of revolution:

- The Scattering of the Proud.
- The Bringing down of the Powerful.
- The Sending of the Rich away Empty.

She also sees the Savior's birth as the accomplishment of three acts of salvation:

- The Lifting up of the Lowly.
- The Filling of the Hungry with Good Things.
- The Rescue of Israel.

Mary sees Jesus coming to set right what is wrong: to put an end to the rich and powerful lording over the poor and weak. Like his mother, Jesus had some radical ideas about what he had come to do: preach good news to the poor (Luke 4:18,) show love to enemies (Luke 6:27-36) and tell the rich to sell everything they have and give it to the poor (Luke 18:22).

Whether you are poor or rich, the gospel is good news. (Your classification probably depends on who you compare yourself to. Americans, feel free to compare yourself to Somalians.) Are you poor and oppressed? Good news! Jesus is coming to set you free from the fallenness of human civilization. Are you rich and powerful? Good news! Jesus is coming to liberate you from the tyranny of your greed and disregard for the well being of your brothers and sisters. Amen, Come Lord Jesus!

~ Jonathan Stepp