

The Blessed Virgin

Luke 1:26-56

Halifax, 18 December 2005

Introduction

This week, I want to break from our regular series in Matthew in order to speak about that which is on the minds of many at this time of year—the birth of Jesus Christ.

- It is very doubtful that He was actually born at this time of year,
 - and at this church we deliberately avoid the notion that the church has the authority to declare a day holy that God has not declared holy by His word.
 - At the same time, we do not consider it unlawful to meditate on the birth of Christ or to rejoice in the birth of Christ on December 25 or at any other time for that matter.
 - Nor do we consider it unlawful to hear sermons on topics that are on the minds of many.
 - And so as we have just completed another section of Matthew’s gospel in our regular sermon series,
 - I have decided to preach a sermon on a subject related to the birth of Jesus Christ...
 - In particular, I want to preach about “The Blessed Virgin.”

I don’t know if you have ever noticed it,

- but the blessedness of Mary is strongly emphasised in Luke 1:26-56, the passage I read to you a moment ago:
 - 1) First, we hear it on the lips of the angel Gabriel when he comes to tell Mary that she is going to conceive and bring forth the Christ.
 - In verse 28, he says,
 - “Rejoice highly favoured one, the Lord is with you; Blessed are you among women!”
 - 2) Then we hear it again from Mary’s cousin Elizabeth when Mary goes to visit her.
 - In verse 42, Elizabeth declares,
 - “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!”
 - And again in verse 45,
 - “Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfilment of those things which were told her from the Lord.”
 - And notice that Elizabeth says these things as one filled with the Holy Spirit—
 - it is not just her own words, but the word of God.

- 3) And thirdly, we hear of Mary's blessedness from Mary herself, also speaking under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit in verse 48 where she says:
- "Henceforth all generations will call me blessed."

Now we are all too familiar with the superstition of many who set up images of the Virgin in their churches or their homes,

- and who vainly mutter prayers to her even though the Bible clearly tells us that there is a great divide between us and the dead.
- and who invoke chants using her name as if she has the power to bestow grace to her suppliants!

We are rightly repulsed by these vain and idolatrous practices that rob our Lord Jesus of the glory that belongs to Him.

- But you must not allow your repulsion with such practices to cause you to miss what God has revealed in His word about the blessedness of Mary.
 - You must not let those who abuse certain scriptures steal away those scriptures from you that the Holy Spirit has given to you for your comfort and edification!
 - And so today I want to focus in my sermon on the blessedness of Mary that you might not miss what God has given you about this in His word.

My outline today is very simple and can be reduced to three questions:

- I. First: What does the Bible mean when it says that Mary was blessed?**
- II. Second: What was the blessing that God bestowed on Mary?**
- III. And third: What was the effect of God's blessing on Mary?**

But before I begin working through these questions,

- I want to alert you about something I will be doing as we go along...
 - I will be applying what is said about Mary's blessedness to you...
 - If you are in Christ, I will be encouraging you that like her, you are also blessed of God...
 - And if you are not in Christ, I will be urging you to come to Him so that you too can have God's blessing.
- You all need to understand that what is said about the blessedness of Mary may, in a certain sense, be said about the entire church—
 - As products of our age,
 - we tend to look at the blessings of God as something we receive in isolation from others,

- but the Bible looks at them as something we receive in connection with others...
- For example, in Galatians 3, Paul calls the salvation that the Gentiles receive “the blessing of Abraham.”
- We can read about God’s blessing of Abraham and realise all the while that it is also our blessing, whoever among us not believe...
- The Bible gives me good reason to apply what is said to Mary here to all of you who believe...
 - In the Bible, the church is often referred to as a woman who is called to bring forth life...
 - Just after the fall of mankind into sin,
 - God came to the woman and He promised that the woman’s seed would crush the serpent’s head.
 - The woman’s seed was, of course, her offspring...
 - Some how, the woman would bring forth a Son that would deliver her from bondage to Satan into which the whole human race had fallen.
 - All through Scripture, this theme is developed.
 - The promise is expressed again and again that somehow, God’s chosen people will bring forth a Saviour who will deliver them from their sin.
 - For example, we read Isaiah 54 this morning.
 - It speaks about the barren woman (the church in her present state at the time Isaiah wrote it) becoming fruitful.
 - In Galatians 4,
 - Paul quotes from Isaiah 54 and compares
 - Hagar as the mother of covenant people who do not believe—
 - with Sarah, the barren woman, who by God’s grace is the mother of those who are blessed through faith in God’s promise.
 - Mary could no more bring forth a son of righteousness than Sarah could bring forth a son in her old age...
 - It was the work of God, not the work of the flesh, that the church would bring forth the very Son of God.
 - It is the church that brings forth salvation by the grace of God through Mary...

- It is a personal blessing for Mary, but it is also a blessing for the entire church.
- If you look at the overall tenor of Mary’s response, you can see that while she declares that “all generations will call me blessed,”
 - She does not look at what God has done for her in isolation from what He has done for the entire church...
 - She does not look at God’s blessing in giving her this child as her blessing in isolation of what the coming of this child means for us all!
 - This is very clear in verse 54 and 55 where she speaks of what God is doing in giving her this child as:
 - in the remembrance of His covenant mercy to Israel—that which was promised to Abraham and His seed forever.
 - And so although Mary is the only woman who is to conceive and bring forth Jesus Christ,
 - His coming forth is for the blessing of the entire church—that is, those who believe in every age.
 - God’s expression of love and grace to Mary in calling her to be the mother of the Lord cannot be separated from His love and grace to the whole church in at last bringing forth a Saviour.
- So all that to say that I will not just be talking about the blessedness of Mary this morning,
 - but also the blessedness of all of you who believe...
 - and the blessedness that you who do not believe might have if only you would turn from your own way and believe.
 - So with this in mind, let us turn to the first question:

I. What does the Bible mean when it says that Mary was blessed?

- **by Gabriel and Elizabeth, “blessed among women”**
- **and by Mary that “all generation will call me blessed.”**

A. There are two possibilities as to what this might mean grammatically.

- Either it means that Mary is the **recipient** of God’s blessing or that Mary is the **source** of blessing.
 1. If Mary is the **recipient** of God’s blessing,
 - it means that she is blessed among woman because she has received something from God that others have not received.

- a. This is the way you might speak of someone like Job (before his troubles began)...
 - You look at Job in his prosperity and you say,
 - “Look at how God has blessed that man!”
 - He is more blessed than any man.
 - Everywhere you look at his life, you see fruitfulness.
 - God had given great riches,
 - He had given him godliness,
 - He had given him children,
 - He had given him wisdom.
 - All you had to do was look at his life and you could see God’s blessing.

- b. Paul speaks this way of the Ephesian church which consisted of those who had recently received God’s salvation in Jesus Christ.
 - Ephesians 1:3 speaks of these blessings when it says:
 - Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ.
 - They were blessed because they were the recipients of God’s blessing through Jesus Christ.

TRANS> So, grammatically, when the scripture says that Mary was blessed,

- it may mean that she is the recipient of God’s blessing.
- But now consider the other possibility:

2. When the scripture says that a person is blessed,

- It can also mean that a person is the **source** of blessing to others.
- a. Certainly, this is what we always mean whenever we speak of the blessedness of God,
 - 1) When you say that God is “blessed forever”
 - you are not saying that there is someone who is there continually enriching Him with blessings...
 - When we bless God, we do not enrich Him, but we declare Him to be the source of all blessing!
 - We are not looking at Him and saying,

- “Look at all the wonderful things that have been given to you. You certainly are blessed...”
- But we are looking at Him and saying, “Look how good He is, how full He is of good things.”

b. But is it possible that such blessedness can be ascribed to human beings?

- The answer is “yes,” but a qualified yes.

1) Look at Job again.

- There was a sense in which he was a fountain of blessing that others could come and drink from.
- He had widows and orphans coming to him for sustenance and protection...
- He had those in need of wisdom coming to him for counsel.
- He was a blessing to all who knew him.

2) Certainly, under God, you can be a blessing or a curse to others...

- And if someone is a blessing to you, you speak of that person as a blessing in this secondary way—
- You ought to always thank God, however, as He is the one from whom all blessings flow—
- He is the only true source of blessing and the one from whom every good and perfect gift comes.
- But still, it is not improper to say that a person is blessed.

TRANS> And so you see that grammatically, the blessedness of Mary could refer to either:

- either that she is called blessed because she has **received** an abundance of blessing from God...
- or that she is called blessed she is the **source** of blessing to so many persons.

B. So which of the two is true of Mary?

1. It seems quite clear from the context that Mary is called blessed first and foremost because she is the **recipient** of God’s blessing.

a. When Gabriel speaks to her, he tells her that she is going to conceive and bring forth a son who is to be the Messiah...

1) He tells her this by referring to the Messiah by a number of scriptural titles,

- and it is clear that Mary understands that somehow she is to conceive this child in her virginity...
 - For she asks, “How can this be since I do not know a man?” which means, since I have never had sexual relations with a man?
- 2) Clearly, Gabriel is not telling her that she is blessed above other women in that she has more to give than others,
- but rather in that she is going to be given a privilege by God that no other woman will be given!
 - Conceiving this child in her virginity clearly places this as a work of God, not a work of Mary!
 - She could well sing Psalm 115 with us,
 - “Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but to Your name give glory.”
- b. But sadly, you know that our sinful nature is all too ready to suppose that when we have been given a lot,
- we must have been given a lot because of our superiority to others...
- 1) How often the Lord reminds His people not to think this way!
- In 1 Cor 4:7, Paul says:
 - For who makes you differ *from another*? And what do you have that you did not receive? Now if you did indeed receive *it*, why do you boast as if you had not received *it*?
 - In another place, Paul says,
 - “God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of Jesus Christ.
- 2) When the Lord was bringing His people into the promised land,
- He warned them that after they had entered and received the abundance of blessing,
 - they were not to think that it was because they were superior to others...
 - He tells them expressly that they are blessed because of his free promise of grace.
- 3) This is a major theme of scripture!
- We are not blessed because of our goodness, but we are blessed because of God’s free grace.
- a) Israel was taught this at the Passover—

- God did not pass over them when He His angel to destroy the first born in Egypt because they were good.
 - In fact, there first born had to die also—the only difference was that God accepted a substitute in the place of their first born—there was still a judicial death required.
 - God was showing them that He was treating them differently, but not because they deserved to be treated differently.
- b) Isn't this is the lesson of the cross?
 - We are not blessed with heavenly hope because we are deserving of it,
 - we are blessed because Christ took our punishment upon Himself!
- c. So we see that when Gabriel is ascribing blessedness to Mary,
 - He is not declaring to her how wonderful she is,
 - He is rather declaring to her the wonderful thing that God is going to do for her!
 - It is true that in a secondary sense, she brings the blessing of Christ to us...
 - But she is receiving a blessing that she could not possibly have worked up on her own!
 - The very point is that Mary is bringing forth this child in a way that is utterly impossible for her to pull off!
 - It is not about what she has done or can do for us;
 - it is all about what God is going to do.
- 2. And so it is also with Elizabeth's declaration of Mary's blessedness.
 - a. When Elizabeth calls Mary blessed among women,
 - She is not talking about what Mary is going to do for God,
 - but about what God is going to do for Mary!
 - It is not about Mary's goodness, but it is about God's grace!
 - b. In verse 45, Elizabeth does attribute something to Mary, and that something is faith!
 - She says, "blessed is she who believed!"
 - Mary is blessed, not because she is going to do something great, but because she is receiving something great from God through faith.

3. And then we see what Mary herself says...

- When she says that all generations will call her blessed, it is not because she sees herself as superior to others—it is the opposite!
 - It is because God has regarded the lowly estate of His maidservant...
 - He has taken a lowly maiden and has given her the highest privilege that any woman could ever have!
 - The blessedness is clearly in what God does for her, not what she is in herself!
 - His grace meets her in her lowliness and exalts her!

C. And it is right here that we learn of the great difference between true religion and false religion!

1. True religion looks for God to bless where there is no merit...

- False religion tries to work up merit to obtain God's favour.
- False religion has some blessedness to show off to God,
 - True religion has blessedness to receive from God.
- False religion says, "God, you have to accept me because I have done this and this for you."
 - True religion says, "God, you have to accept me because of your gracious promise in your Son."

2. Those who look at Mary as a source of blessing do so because they carry within themselves the false notion that they can and must work up merit before God.

- They find hope in Mary because if she could do it, they should be able to do it in time.
 - Just as Mary is called blessed because what she has done (or because of what she is), so will they be called blessed because of what they have done (or what they are).
- In true religion, Mary is called blessed because of what she has received from God through no merit of her own...
 - She could no more produce this child than Sarah could bring forth Isaac in her old age.
 - This was something that God was going to do for her.
 - Everyone would call her blessed, as she said,
 - because He who is mighty has done great things for me...
 - NOT "because I have done great things for Him."

3. So what about you?
 - a. Are you trying to find life—happiness—blessedness on your own?
 - Are you trying to find it in your achievements or in a special relationship or in your possessions or even in the good things you do for others or for God?
 - That is the false way to live.
 - That is all rooted in the lie of Satan that “You will be as God.”
 - Only God is blessed in Himself.
 - b. The only way you can be blessed is if God blesses you.
 - The way of true life—happiness—blessedness is found in looking to God to pour His grace upon you.
 - That is the way of true religion over against false Christianity and every other religion or non-religion in the world!

TRANS> Now this leads us to the next question:

II. What is the blessing that God bestowed on Mary?

- A. To put it very simply, the blessing is Jesus.
 1. For Mary in particular, the blessing was that she was chosen by God to be the one in whose womb He was conceived!
 - In this she had a blessing that no other woman would ever have!
 - Women have the wonderful privilege in general of bringing forth life in their wombs,
 - but Mary would have the even greater privilege of bringing forth the One who would be the life of the world
 2. But as I mentioned before,
 - a. You see clearly here that Mary’s blessing contains in it a blessing for the whole church!
 - Just as Abraham and Sarah were blessed with a child in their old age,
 - and though this was a great blessing for them personally...
 - yet the blessing that was to come through this child would be the salvation of the whole world—
 - all the nations would be blessed through Abraham’s seed!

TRANS> So it was with Mary...

- b. When Jesus was teaching, there was a woman in the crowd that cried out and said:
 - Luke 11:27: “Blessed *is* the womb that bore You, and *the* breasts which nursed You!”
 - Jesus corrected her and said:
 - Luke 11:28: “More than that, blessed *are* those who hear the word of God and keep it!”
 - In other words, the blessedness of Mary was not so much in bearing a child,
 - but in the salvation that came to all the world (and to her) through that child—
 - the blessing that comes to those that hear the word of God and keep it and so receive the promise by faith.

TRANS> So you see that the blessing was Jesus Himself

- B. Just Look at how Gabriel describes the blessedness this great blessing that Mary is to bring forth from her womb!
 - 1. First, Gabriel presents the name by which this child will be called....
 - a. In verse 31, he says, “You shall call His name Jesus”
 - This wonderful name explains the blessedness of Jesus’ work...
 - The name Jesus means: “Jehovah saves.”
 - In Matthew we are told that when Gabriel told Joseph to name Him Jesus,
 - he added the reason,
 - “because He will save His people from their sins.”
 - In this name it is declared to us the work that He would perform!
 - He will save us.
 - b. What a tremendous blessing this is!
 - 1) Every human being, with the exception of Jesus, is in desperate need of salvation.
 - a) We stand in desperate need of forgiveness.
 - We must all pay the penalty of our sin,
 - and the great problem is that the only way we can pay it is through eternal suffering.

- There is no other way for God's justice to be satisfied,
 - and God will not be unjust!
- b) We stand in desperate need of renewal.
- Even if there was some way for us to be forgiven,
 - we still need to have our hearts and lives changed...
 - Love has to come in where there is bitterness and selfishness, or we could never enjoy either God or heaven.
- 2) The blessing for Mary is that she is going to bring forth a child that will be Jesus—“Jehovah who saves.”
- He will be the One who saves His people from their sins by:
 - He will secure for them God's forgiveness by His death on the cross so that as soon as they believe in Him, their sins are all forgiven...
 - He will be the won who renews their hearts and their lives to love God and neighbour... so that they are renewed daily and at the last day made perfect...
 - All that is wrong with us, He will make right.

TRANS> So you see first of all that the child given to Mary is a blessing because He is Jesus—He is the Lord who saves...

2. Secondly, He is a blessing because of His greatness and majesty.
- a. Gabriel says,
- “He will be great, and will be the called the Son of the Highest.”
- b. There is no greater greatness and no majesty more majestic than His!
- As the Son of the Highest, He is shown to be in very nature God.
 - Yet, marvellously, He who existed from all eternity is to be conceived as man in Mary's womb!
 - He is to actually be made of her substance!
- c. It is this very combination of being both God and man that makes Him able to save us from our sins...
- 1) Because He is the Son of God, He is able to bear upon Himself the wrath and curse of God for us without crumbing.
- And being the Son of God, He is worthy to be heard by His Father when we pleads for our forgiveness on the merits of His sacrifice....

- And as God, He is able to destroy all our enemies including Satan and death...
 - And He is able to call forth His Spirit and send Him to renew us and make us complete...
- 2) Because He is also the offspring of Mary and so truly man,
- He is made able to represent us and suffer for us as one of us...
 - You see, the human race is all one family—we are all the sons of Adam, and so to redeem us, Christ had to become one of our race and be born of us...
 - And because He is one of us, He is able to sympathise with us in our weakness...
 - and He is able to raise our nature out of its ruin, being Himself anointed above measure by the Holy Spirit.
- 3) In Jesus then, we have this great one... the very Son of God, residing in human flesh!
- Who could have ever dreamed that this great one, the very Son of the Highest, would be born of lowly virgin from Nazareth?
 - See how blessed this virgin is!
 - See how blessed the church is!

TRANS> But Gabriel does not stop here describing the blessing that Jesus is...

- He has told us of His work—to save us...
 - He has told us of His greatness and majesty—He is the Son of the Highest...
3. And now He tells us the duration of His reign!
- v. 32-33: “the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.”
- a. Here Gabriel makes it clear that Jesus’ reign is not to be like David’s or Solomon’s which only lasted until they died!
- He is the King who is promised in 2 Samuel 7 and in Isaiah 9 whose kingdom would never end!
 - He is the King whose subjects are blessed beyond the grave!
- b. Now this is altogether marvellous!
- Mary, a simple maiden, was to bring forth from her womb a child that would live forever...

- and who would bring eternal life to all His people... sustaining them in His blessed kingdom forever and ever!
- Here the people over whom He reigns are called Jacob because God made His promise to Jacob.
 - And all you who believe are now a part of Jacob—you are the circumcision to whom all of God’s promises belong.
 - Yours is a blessing that will never be taken away!

TRANS> Now you see what the blessing is that God has given to Mary,

- That she should be the mother of this child who is the Saviour of the world!
- That He who is truly the Son of God should be conceived in her womb...
- And you see how God’s blessing to Mary is indeed a blessing to the entire church!

III. And now I want you to consider what the effect of God’s blessing had upon Mary—

- **and by her example what it should have upon you all.**

A. First of all, you see that she believes what God has told her!

1. We see this in two places...

a. First, in verse 38 where she says:

- “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.”

1) Understand what she has just been told!

- She has just been told that the Son of God, the Saviour of the world, who will bring eternal life to His people, is going to be conceived in her virgin womb!
- She is astounded when she first hears this, and asks,
 - “How can this be since I know not a man?”
 - Gabriel explains to her quite simply that the Holy Spirit will bring about this conception—
 - that with God nothing is impossible.

2) With this simple explanation,

- Mary believes.
 - She needs nothing more.
- In saying, “Behold the maidservant of the Lord.”

- She presents herself as one who is completely resigned to what God has said.
 - She remembers that she is here to serve Him and to bring glory to Him... she is His servant, God is not her servant.
 - In saying, "Let it be to me according to your word."
 - She shows clearly that she believes what Gabriel has told her, even though it was such an extraordinary and remarkable thing!
 - What was spoken is what will be done.
- b. Secondly, we see her faith described by Elizabeth when Elizabeth says to Mary in verse 45:
- "Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfilment of those things which were told her from the Lord."
 - Mary has not believed a fairy tale!
 - She has believed God's word and she will not be disappointed.
 - God will do exactly what He has promised to do.
2. How I could wish that this child-like faith were more common among us than it is today!
- a. How foolish are those who reject the virgin birth and try to explain it away because it goes beyond their understanding!
- They do this in the name of intelligence and wisdom, but it is the greatest folly...
 - For here they are, creatures of God, denying that the God who created them of nothing could create a body in the womb of a virgin!
 - If you do not believe this, your problem is not that your intellect won't allow you to believe—
 - It is very illogical to think that God could not do such a thing...
 - Your problem is that you are trying to avoid God.
 - You are trying to deny that there is a living God who made you...
 - If you will only admit that there is such a God,
 - it is quite easy to believe that He could form a body for His Son in the womb of a virgin.
- b. Jesus says that you must have this child like faith in what God says if you want to be saved.
- 1) This does not mean you turn off your reason and your intellect!

- Quite the contrary!
 - It means you turn them on so as to stop suppressing the truth about the world as it really is!
 - You turn off your intellect when you try to suppress the One we all know.
 - When you try to account for your existence apart from Him and you end up very confused...
 - When you try to live your life in isolation from Him—as if He does not exist; you end up very empty and barren.
- 2) What Elizabeth said of Mary is true of every human being who believes the Word of God...
- “Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfilment of those things which were told her from the Lord.”
 - So also the Scripture says very plainly:
 - Romans 10:8: “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”
 - If you would have the blessing of eternal life, you must believe what God has spoken about His Son.
 - Do not think that God would not or could not save you.
 - It is only a foolish excuse on your part because you do not want to turn from your sin and come to Him.
 - You will not be disappointed if you do—you will be blessed!
 - Come now, what is there really to lose if you serve Him?

TRANS> So first, you see that Mary believed what God had said and so should you...

B. Secondly, you see that Mary is filled with gratitude, joy, and hope in God’s blessing!

- After Mary speaks to her cousin Elizabeth,
 - (who also expresses gratitude, joy and hope in God’s blessing)
 - she breaks out in a song of praise to God.
- Her song is given to us in verse 46-55.

- This wonderful poem calls for a whole sermon in itself,
 - but we must content ourselves with the highlights.
1. First, look at how Mary is taken up with God here!
 - a. She speaks of magnifying Him and rejoicing in Him, not merely with her lips from her soul and spirit:
 - v. 46-47: “My soul magnifies the Lord, And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.”
 - Hypocrites will say the words,
 - but those who have received God’s blessing rejoice and have high thoughts of God within.
 - b. She calls Him **mighty** because of the great things He has done...
 - She calls Him **holy**, which means that He is unlike us in perfection and excellence!
 - She calls Him **merciful** because He has remembered His covenant promise to save His people from their sins...
 2. Secondly, you see how she delights in what He has done!
 - a. First she speaks of how God has regarded her in particular so that all generations will call her blessed...
 - They will see what God has done for her in giving her the privilege of conceiving and bringing forth the Son of God from her womb...
 - b. Then she speaks of this as God remembering His mercy to His people...
 - That what God is doing in her—in her conception—is to bring forth His promised salvation to His people...
 - And that this promised salvation will completely turn around the lives of all who receive it!
 - that they will go from being poor to rich,
 - from being hungry to being filled with good things!
 - It short, they will be fully blessed of God who were miserable.
 - So it will be for any of you who come to this Saviour.
 - c. She also speaks of those who are rich and full already—
 - that is, those who think they do not need a saviour to bless them—
 - those who think they can bless themselves well enough—
 - these, she says, will be brought down and sent away empty.

- So it will be for any of you that refuse this Saviour.
3. Now I say to you—are you filled with the gratitude, joy, and hope of one who is the recipient of God’s blessing?
- Are you filled with the gratitude, joy and hope of one who is trusting in the Son of God who was conceived in Mary’s womb that He might come and turn everything around for His people?
 - Have you come to this Saviour to receive this blessing?
 - Do you believe what God has said?
 - or are you still trying to find blessing apart from Him?
 - I am here to declare to you today in the name of Lord that there is no real blessing to be found apart from Jesus.
 - Like Mary, blessedness does not come because of what you are or do,
 - blessedness comes from what God does for you.