

**Luke 1:46-55**  
*True Worship*  
(pt. 3)

**INTRO-** Genesis 4, Leviticus 10, Malachi 1:6-14, Matthew 15:8.

*Mary's Song illustrates the following lessons related to True Worship*

(REVIEW)

- 1) **Spirit-filled worship is robustly God-centered**
- 2) **Biblical worship is reserved for God and God alone.**
- 3) **Exuberant worship is befitting for those who have *tasted and seen* that the Lord is merciful, faithful to His promises, and (oh so) good!**
- 4) **Authentic worship is grounded in: i) *God's gracious activity* and in ii) *the humanly impossible great things that the Almighty does for those who fear Him*. ("FOR"; vv. 48/49f; Luke 1:37)**
- 5) **God-glorifying worship is *informed & inflamed* with a deep knowledge of Scripture.**  
(note Col. 3:16)
- 6) **True worship has both *personal* and *corporate* dimensions to it.**

Mary's inspired "Magnificat" illustrates the following lessons related to "True Worship."

7)

8)

### **For Further Reflection/Application:**

Not all worship is acceptable to Holy God. Read Genesis 4, Leviticus 10 (note the related chapter on Lev. 10 in MacArthur's *Strange Fire* book), and Malachi 1:6-14. Bethel worship is a modern-day example of "praise" that is not done "in Spirit and Truth" (John 4:23-24) and thus it is not pleasing to God.

How do we know whether our worship is *sincere* and truly *heart-felt*? (see also Matthew 15:8f; Psalm 51:17).

Memorize Psalm 139:23-24 this week and use this passage as an ongoing prayer template.

How does the Gospel Story and the Good News message (Creation- Fall- Redemption- Consummation) move the believer to greater heights of wonder, love, and praise? (see Romans 11:36)

Listen to "Mary's song" in the larger context of Luke 1:5-44. The Magnificat is not just a first-time mom going bananas. This is a song of salvation and eschatological joy- (how so?)

Mary's song has been called the "Cinderella story" of the New Testament.

What did the preacher mean when he stated that authentic worship and true humility go hand in hand? What in Mary's inspired song manifests true humility?

In what ways is pride, God-centered worship's kryptonite? (a sense of entitlement, self-glory, etc)?

What are some possible warning signs of pride in your life? Write down 2-3 ways that unconfessed pride impacts your worship?

Does God's grace still amaze you? What happens to the Lord's Table, Bible study, Christian preaching and Cross-centered worship when our hearts grow dull and when God's grace no longer amazes us?

### **Related Praise Songs:**

*Your Grace Still Amazes Me*  
*I Stand Amazed in the Presence-*  
*Beneath the Cross of Jesus-*  
*Magnificat- Ligonier; Saints of Zion CD*

### **Related Biblical Texts:**

*Luke 1:45-55; Genesis 4; Leviticus 10; Malachi 1:6-10; Matthew 15:8; Psalm 51:17; Colossian 3:16-17; Eph. 5:18-20; James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5-6; Psalm 139:23-24; Revelation 5, 19-20. John 4:23-24*

### **Related Resources:**

*Strange Fire: The Danger of Offending the Holy Spirit with Counterfeit Worship-* MacArthur  
*Sing! How Worship Transforms Your Life, Family, and Church-* Keith and Kristyn Getty  
*Hymns of Grace-* The Master's Seminary Press  
*Sing the Wonders: Hymns and Psalms for the Church-* Grace Music