



Daily Reflections

December 22, 2017

Scripture

Luke 1: 46-56

Mary said:

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my savior.

for he has looked upon his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,
and has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever."

Mary remained with Elizabeth about three months
and then returned to her home.

Our Scripture Reflection

Mary filled with joy utters one of the most magnificent prayers of our Christian tradition known as the Magnificat.

Notice the focus of her prayer.....it's all about God! If anyone on earth had bragging rights, it was Mary. After all she was carrying the One who would become the Savior of the world. But Mary's humble focus is on praising God for His goodness to her and to the world.

Food for your Journey

Faith is the willingness to receive whatever [God] wants to give, or the willingness not to have what he does not want to give. From the greatest of all gifts (salvation in Christ) to the material blessings of any ordinary day (hot water, a pair of legs that work, a cup of coffee, a job to do and the strength to do it), every good gift comes down from the Father of Lights. Every one of them is to be received gladly and with thanks. Sometimes we want things we were not meant to have. Because he loves us, the Father says no. Faith is willing not to have what God is not willing to give. Furthermore, faith does not insist on an explanation. It is enough to know his promise that he will give what is good; he knows so much more about that than we do.

—Elisabeth Elliot.

A Prayer from the Heart

Oh Come, Oh Crome Emmanuel! Fill my heart with the joy that comes from Your loving Presence in my heart. Amen.