

Luke 1:39-56 Mercy from the Lord
Jesus Christ brings us mercy from the Lord.

- 1) The mercy of Divine revelation (vv. 39-45).
 - a) Christ is recognized by Divine revelation.
 - i) The Holy Spirit fills John in Elizabeth's womb so that he can bear witness for Christ while Jesus is in Mary's womb (vv. 15, 44)
 - ii) The Holy Spirit fills Elizabeth so that she can bear witness for Christ (v. 41).
 - iii) It is a great mercy to be able to "see" Christ for who He is.
 - iv) The Holy Spirit must give us this initial recognition.
 - v) The Holy Spirit continues to reveal the glory of Christ to us.
 - b) Are you relying on the Spirit to increase your knowledge of Christ? Through prayer? Through the Spiritual gifts of the Church?
- 2) The mercy of true joy (vv. 42-47).
 - a) Christ brings true joy.
 - i) John leaped for joy in Elizabeth's womb (v. 44).
 - ii) Mary is "blessed" by Christ (vv. 42, 45, 46-47).
 - iii) Elizabeth's exclamation indicates her participation in the joy of Christ (v. 42).
 - b) The joy of Christ comes from who He is and what He does.
- 3) The mercy of the hope of relief (vv. 46-56).
 - a) Christ brings mercy that promises to reverse our misery.
 - i) Elizabeth and Mary are both representative of the reversal of humanity's condition of misery.
 - (1) "Why is this granted to me . . .?" (v. 43)
 - (2) "the humble estate of His servant" (v. 48)
 - (3) "great things for me" (v. 49)
 - ii) "Mercy for those who fear Him" (v. 50)
 - (1) Promise to bring down unrighteous rulers/oppressors (vv. 51-53)
 - (2) Promise to exalt His servants (vv. 51-53)
 - iii) Promised to "our Fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever"
 - b) Are you finding your joy in Christ? Do you believe the promises of God that are fulfilled in Christ?

As a believer in Christ, how is His mercy being extended from your life to the world in which you live?