

# *“The Test of Praise”*

Luke 1:39-56  
East Berlin Community Church  
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## Introduction

- Negative tests of our faith and character
- Positive tests of faith and character
- The Test of Praise-- Proverbs 27:21

## *“The Test of Praise”*

### **A. Praise Heaped** by Elizabeth-- 1:39-45

1. Setting up the Meeting-- vv. 39-41
2. The Praise: *“Blessed among women”*-- 1: 42
  - a. Meaning: Jael in Judges 5:24
  - b. Reasons
    - 1) *“mother of the Lord”*
      - a) Meaning of “Lord”-- messianic term. Psalm 110:1
      - b) Confirmed through fetal celebration-- v. 44
        - Genesis 25:22-23
        - Timing and Intensity
    - 2) Her faith in God-- 1:45
      - a) Contrast to Zechariah
      - b) First and last “Beatitude” in the Gospels

### **B. Praise Handled** by Mary-- 1:46-56

1. Composing the “Magnificat”? By Mary?
2. Key to Handling Praise: Redirect It
3. Three Reasons Mary redirects the praise to God
  - a. Even though all generations will call her blessed, Mary considers herself as simply a lowly servant of the Lord, who is what she is by God’s grace and might. 1:46-49
  - b. Even though some might think that her situation is unique, Mary considers it as only an application of God’s past pattern. 1:50-53
  - c. While others might consider her part in bringing the Messiah into the world as the most important, Mary views it as only a part of God’s big plan. 1:54-55