

COGA NEWS



WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- The Magnificat - Mary's Song
- Daniel's Fast & Bible Reading
- Upcoming Events
- A Little Something to Laugh About



THE MAGNIFICAT: MARY'S SONG TEN KEYS TO AFFECT GENERATIONS

THE PROPER RESPONSE FOR 2025

"BE IT UNTO ME ACCORDING TO THY WORD"

A THREE-PART SONG:

(1) In the first part Mary praises God for what He had done for herself, (vv. 46-50).

(2) In the second, she praises Him for what He had done, and would do, against the oppressors of His people, (vv. 51-53).

(3) In the third, she praises Him for what He had done and would do, for His Church, (vv. 53-56).

Vs. 46 **AND MARY SAID, MY SOUL DOTH MAGNIFY THE LORD**

1.) A Recipient of His Goodness: Mary's song is a counterpart of the song of Hannah, as related in 1 Sam. 2:1-10. Both women sang as a response to the goodness of the Lord. Hannah and Mary's experience is a reminder that if we remain patient and pure, God will give us our own victory song. So, start rehearsing!

2.) A Time to Celebrate God's Acts: Note some of the lyrics; "My soul doth magnify the Lord." The verb signifies "to celebrate with words, to extol with praises." This is the only way in which God can be magnified or made great. Strictly speaking, nothing can be added to God, for He is infinite and eternal. Therefore, the way to magnify Him is to show forth and celebrate those acts in which He has manifested His greatness.

Vs. 47 **AND MY SPIRIT HATH REJOICED IN GOD MY SAVIOUR.**

3.) Exalting with Understanding: "My spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior" (v.47). These words forcefully show that

Mary's whole soul was filled with the divine influence and wrapped up in God. She called the one she exalted the "God my Savior." Acknowledging her personal need of salvation and fully understanding that that salvation comes only from God, exhibited in the person of Jesus, and ratified through His name (Acts 4:12).

GLORIFYING FORCEFULLY!

- Vehemently • Convincingly • Compellingly
- Persuasively • Powerfully • Weightily

Vs. 48 **FOR HE HATH REGARDED THE LOW ESTATE OF HIS HANDMAIDEN: FOR, BEHOLD, FROM HENCEFORTH ALL GENERATIONS SHALL CALL ME BLESSED.**

4.) A Call to Humility: "He hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden" (v.48). In the Lord's loving manner He has "Looked favorably," and visited me in my humiliation. God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble (1 Pet.5:5).

From henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. This was the character by which Mary wished to be known by all generations - "A blessed or fully satisfied happy virgin." A title ascribed by Jesus for all who are a part of his kingdom.

To be addressed as "Queen of Heaven," would have been of no interest to Mary, who considered herself the Lord's handmaiden. We dishonor ourselves and others, when we applied titles that are both absurd and blasphemous.

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Vs. 49 **FOR HE THAT IS MIGHTY HATH DONE TO ME GREAT THINGS; AND HOLY IS HIS NAME.**

5.) To Expect the Miraculous: "He that is mighty hath done to me great things (or "miracles), and Holy is his name (v.49). Mary testified that the mighty God had given her personally, abundant goodness and exuberant kindness.

We should expect the same when we submit to his will and reference the chase and holy name Jesus? This agrees with the following clause. Vs. 50 And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation.

We will continue this lesson about the actions of Mary in our February 2025 Newsletter. We will cover the next 5 keys that will affect generations.

The Proper Response for 2025 "Be it unto me according to thy word"

DANIEL'S FAST & 2025 BIBLE READING

DANIEL'S FAST: NOURISHING THE BODY AND SOUL:

As we engage in the 21 Day Daniel's Fast, we choose to deny our physical desires temporarily, allowing our spirits to become more attuned to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. This intentional act of self-discipline creates a sacred space for prayer, meditation, and seeking God's guidance for the upcoming year. Fasting isn't about deprivation but rather a conscious effort to redirect our attention from the temporal to the eternal.

As we step into the New Year, let us do so with a heart eager to draw closer to God. The 21 Day Daniel's Fast and regular Bible reading offers a transformative journey of self-discovery, spiritual growth, and deeper intimacy with God. May this intentional season of fasting and feasting on God's Word be a catalyst for a year filled with divine encounters, purposeful living, and unwavering faith.

EMBARKING ON A BIBLE READING JOURNEY:

Pairing the Daniel's Fast with a commitment to daily Bible reading amplifies the impact of this spiritual reset. The Bible serves as our ultimate guide, providing wisdom, comfort, and divine revelation. Setting aside dedicated time each day to immerse ourselves in God's Word allows us to align our hearts with His will and deepen our understanding of His character.

Engaging with the Bible renews our focus and reminds us of God's promises and faithfulness. It strengthens our faith and reassures us that, regardless of the challenges we may face, God is in control. Establishing a habit of regular Bible reading opens a channel for God to speak to us, offering insights, encouragement, and correction as needed.

CONSIDER USING THE TWELVE-MONTH BIBLE READING WE'VE PROVIDED FOR YOU ONLINE TO TRACK YOUR PROGRESS.



UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY

- 1st > Happy New Year!
- 3rd > Begin 21 Day Daniel's Fast

FEBRUARY

- Black History Month
- 14th > Valentine's Day

Find more information on www.cogainc.org



A LITTLE SOMETHING TO LAUGH ABOUT

- "January: When the gym sees more people than the pews on Sunday."
- "Fasting in January: When even commercials for salad start looking good."
- "If January feels endless, just remember: God's mercies are new every morning—even the frosty ones!"
- "New Year's goal: Making it to church on time. January reality: 'Now where did I put my other shoe?'"
- "Fasting is when you realize how many commercials are about food!"

**Happy
New Year**