

Declare Your Faith Through Praise

Just before Mary gave birth to Jesus, she was filled with the Holy Spirit and began to sing praise. She began to sing a song unto the Lord. She became the fulfillment of Miriam. "Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah [which means praise]" (Luke 1:39, NKJV).

Do you think God was trying to tell us something? Mary went with haste to the city of praise, entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth (John the Baptist's mother), "And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb" (Luke 1:41).

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Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit (v. 42). "Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! But why is this *granted* to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. Blessed is she who believed there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord'" (vv. 42-45).

Mary responded, "My soul magnifies the Lord, And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant'" (Luke 1:46-48a). Her praise ends in verse 56 with, "And Mary remained with her for about three months, and returned to her house."

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How long did they travel in the wilderness? There are many prophetic fulfillments all over the Bible. In the book of Exodus, we see Miriam praising the Lord. Then the people enter the wilderness for three days, where the bitter waters become sweet. We see Mary, who praises the Lord. She is also named Miriam, which means "praise." "And she is filled and praises the Lord.

"She stayed there for about three months" (Luke 1:56). Where? In the city of Judah, the city of praise. Don't get discouraged when you enter into praise and then enter into the wilderness of Shur as mentioned in Exodus 15:22-25.

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