

## The First Christmas Carol, Part II

Luke 1:46-56

### I. The Delight of God's Handmaiden (46-48a)

A) Prerequisites to delight in God (cause) (48a)

B) The Result of delight in God (effect) (46-47)

### II. The Display of God's Attributes (48b-50)

A) Because God Is Good (49-50)

B) God Does Good (48b-49)

### III. The Four Disclosures of God's Triumph (51-53)

A) By the strength of His arm

B) Moral Triumph

C) Social Triumph

D) Economic Triumph

### IV The Declaration of God's Faithfulness (54-55)

A) Mercy's Objects

B) Mercy's Duration

### Small Group Questions

1. One of the foundational reasons for Mary's praise was her understanding of her "lowly estate." Her humility was not a false humility. What is false humility? What does it look like?
2. What is our "lowly estate?" Speak of mankind in general citing passages both doctrinal and narrative to inform our understanding. Also ask, "What is my lowly estate?"
3. Luke 1-2 has different kinds of praise to God. Zechariah, Elizabeth and Simeon's are more ecstatic, while Mary's is of a quieter sort. I illustrated this by comparing a whistling tea kettle with a boiling stock pot. Both are appropriate responses. Share examples in your life of both instances.