

### Introduction

1. Do you know this man receiving Medal of Honor from Pres. Gerald Ford?<sup>1</sup>
  - a. Vice Adm. Jms. B. Stockdale, 1 of 1st Navy pilots downed in Vietnam.<sup>2</sup>
  - b. Stockdale was imprisoned by Vietcong as POW in Hanoi Hilton.
    - i. Frequently tortured to break him. Chained for days w/hands above head.
    - ii. Broke his leg & never reset so not bend left knee & walk w/severe limp.
    - iii. Kept in solitary confinement only seeing guards & interrogators.
  - c. How long did it last? 7yrs. How did he survive when others did not.
  - d. Stockdale said that it was his hope that kept him alive. Hope of going home.<sup>3</sup>
  - e. Each day could be day of release. W/o hope, knew he would die in hopelessness.
2. What a beautiful analogy to the Christian life!
  - a. Life seems at times like POW prison camp. Imprisoned in bodies sick/wear out.
  - b. Harmed by people who wrong us, disappoint us, misunderstand us, or oppose us.
  - c. Problems of life seem like chains drag us down. It's such a struggle sometimes.
  - d. What keeps us fr. despair, fr. dying in hopelessness as others around us?
  - e. When life hard/unfair, we know we're going home!
3. We pray, *Thy kingdom come*. When that hope is finally realized what will it be like?
  - a. That's what Mary found out at the very 1st Christmas.
  - b. When Mary was told be mother of Messiah, earthly circumstances unchanged.
  - c. Remem. that? Still same problems, troubles, hardships, woes as had before.
  - d. Yet Mary wrote 1 most joyful praise songs evr writtn. Read vv. 46-47(NLT).<sup>4</sup>
4. (Title/Text) *Why was Mary so happy? 2st answer = discovered secret Xian hope.*

## I. Grammatical Changes

### A. Plurals & Past Tenses

1. Mary changes fr. sing. to plural. No longer me/my, but their/those.
2. She also changes to the past tense throughout vv. 51-55 (He has = 6 times).
  - a. Past tenses are best understood as renderings of the Hebrew prophetic perf. which represents things of the future as already accomplished.<sup>5</sup> Know how long waiting say?
  - b. It is true, she speaks in the past tense; but her expressions follow the manner of the OT prophets, who often used the past tense in depicting future events, thereby declaring that what is predicted is as sure as if it were already fulfilled.<sup>6</sup>
3. Mary is speaking prophetically. She is taking role of an Isaiah, Jer. or Daniel.
  - a. It is so certain that she uses past tenses to say it is as good as done.
  - b. So Mary moves fr. the personal--what God has done for me thru Jesus.

<sup>1</sup> <http://patriotden.com/fotki/MOH/MOH-AdmJamesStockdale.jpg>. Accessed 12/16/16.

<sup>2</sup> Only hope will help you endure... [www.irsweb.com/IRSSelection.cfm?ID=721](http://www.irsweb.com/IRSSelection.cfm?ID=721). Accessed 12/9/03.

<sup>3</sup> <https://thenypost.files.wordpress.com/2014/02/22-stockdale-homecoming-sd.jpg?quality%5Cx3d90%5Cx26strip%5Cx3dall>. Stockdale reunited w/family. Accessed 12/16/16.

<sup>4</sup> 46 Mary responded, "Oh, how I praise the Lord. 47 How I rejoice in God my Savior!"

<sup>5</sup> Reiling, J., & Swellengrebel, J.L. *A handbook on the Gospel of Luke*, (Luke 1:50).

<sup>6</sup> William F. Arndt, *St. Luke*, p. 9 as quoted in J. D. Pentecost, *The Words and Works of Jesus Christ*, p. 48.

c. To the global--what God will do in the world thru Jesus.

B. Application

1. Sometimes as Xians we get accused of preaching pie-in-the-sky-by-e-&-bye.
2. In other words, wait 'til heaven for things get better, but don't expect help now.
3. But actually the opposite is really true.
  - a. Because God is going to act so decisively in the future we have hope now.
  - b. Because God will make things right in fut., He's concerned with justice now.
4. The very fact that Jesus has come shows that God is active, not passive.
5. He has a plan. We are heading to a better day. God sees. God hears. God helps.

III. **Mary's Prophetic View Of Future (What Millennial Kingdom Be Like)**

A. Prediction #1: Politics Will Be Straightened Out (vv. 51-52).

1. Doesn't just sound good? Wouldn't luv be here world politics made right?
2. Wouldn't love be there when the politics in our own country is made right?
3. Which reminds me of 3 men who argued over which their professions oldest.<sup>7</sup>
4. We laugh. But around the world political rulers have lit. created chaos.<sup>8</sup>
  - a. **The common people of [Mary's] day were almost helpless when it came to justice and civil rights. They were often hungry, downtrodden, and discouraged (cf. 4:16-19), and there was no way to fight the system.**<sup>9</sup>
  - b. Generally ruling class has kept thumb on lower class using/abusing powerless.
  - c. This = quite duo isn't it? **Show** Castro & Khrushchev<sup>10</sup> (Soviet & Cuban communism)
    - i. Their communist policies repressed millions forcing live under totalitarianism.
    - ii. Castro = **evil, murderous dictator** made Cuba **impoverished island prison**<sup>11</sup>
  - d. Story repeated over/over world history. But think about even here in America.<sup>12</sup>
  - e. All of this is in a free country where we elect our leaders & choose our laws.
5. Mary sees day when her son, LJC, put end once for all that kind of oppression.
  - a. Read v. 51. In Bible enemies of God often described as *proud*.
    - i. Exalt themselves in self-confidence against God and oppose His will.
    - ii. Among this group are **mighty** whom God will **bring down fr. their thrones**.

<sup>7</sup> A surgeon, engineer and politician. Said the surgeon: "The Bible says Eve was made by carving a rib out of Adam. I guess that makes mine the oldest profession." "Not at all," said the engineer. "In six days the earth was created out of chaos--and that was an engineer's job." "I've got you both beat," said the politician. "Who do you think created the chaos?" [www.irsweb.com/IRSSelection.cfm?ID=4249](http://www.irsweb.com/IRSSelection.cfm?ID=4249). Accessed 12/9/03.

<sup>8</sup> Go to Iraq & what do you have? Chaos! Go to Syria & what do you have? Chaos! Mexico? Chaos!

<sup>9</sup> W. W. Wiersbe, *Bible Exposition Commentary*, (Luke 1:39).

<sup>10</sup> <http://voiceofmoorecounty.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/Fidel-Castro-and-Nikita-Khrushchev-silverman.jpg>.

<sup>11</sup> Senator Marco Rubio. Julian Borger (26 November 2016). "Trump and Obama offer divergent responses to death of Fidel Castro". The Guardian. Retrieved 5 December 2016.

<sup>12</sup> **12 people shot every day among the poor in the world-class city of Chicago. Financial power brokers have used the system to get rich giving the shaft to the little investors who trusted them. Unelected judges have struck down laws changing the very definition of the family that safeguards morality for all of society. We have highest legal abortion rate in western world w/over 3000 per day. Most unsafe place in America today is in a mother's womb. All legal. And we host 60% of the world's pornographic websites fueling the world's sex trafficking industry against women & children.**

- iii. These are the political rulers whose kingdoms overthrown by Messiah.
  - iv. In their place the humble = believers oppressed though trust in God.
  - b. Jesus referred to this when He said, (Matt. 5:10).
    - i. Mary looking forward grt evnt 2nd coming X defeats nations est. kngdm
    - ii. It is Dan. 2:44/Rev. 11:15. End all polit. oppress. of God's people by rulers.
- B. **Prediction #2: Poverty will be stamped out (v. 53).**
- 1. hungry = just what says, believers needy/disadvan. like Mary herself.
  - 2. rich = powerful in society who take advan. of the underclass keeping in pov.
  - 3. Political oppression always results in poverty as powerful ignore/abuse poor.
    - a. In Russian takeover of Ukraine stole farms/used starvation break resistance
    - b. T or F: There are less slaves in the world today than during the Civil War?
    - c. Show comparison of Slavery in 1860 and today.<sup>13</sup>
  - 4. Mary sees day when Jesus will turn all this upside down in His kingdom.
    - a. Humble believers completely satisfied, unbelieving turned away empty.
    - b. Luke 6:21, 24-25. Matt. 5:5
    - c. This is the answer to the longings of the disadvantaged thru-out the ages.
    - d. To those who know the Lord Jesus will one day say, (Matt. 25:34).
- C. **Prediction #3: Promises will be carried out (vv. 54-55).**
- 1. Notice how Mary concludes this amazing praise song.
  - 2. All of this will happen because God will fulfill the promises made Abr./desc.
    - a. In mercy Lord made cov. w/lis. prom. be great, mighty nation & blessed by God.
    - b. Thru them channel His blessing to the world & believers all ages participate
    - c. Foundation Israel's hope. Mary amazed Is. 9:6-7 finally in her son. (Show)<sup>14</sup>

**Lessons from Our Future Hope**

- 1. When we think God has forgotten, realize He has not! In remembrance of His mercy.
- 2. God's timetable is best even though it seems long. In the fullness of time. Pax Romana.
- 3. Believers have always had to wait for the promises. Wait = 135xs in ESV.
- 4. God is always working even when we can't see it. (Only few people knew the news.)
- 5. God's delays are for a greater purpose. Believe it! Fullness of Gentiles has come in, Rm11:25.
- 6. If God has prepared the future, He will care for us now.
- 7. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you. Genesis 28:15 (Jacob)

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.preachingtoday.com/illustrations/2016/february/4020816.html>. "Shopping Special—Slave Labor," <http://www.sumall.org/slave-labor/> (last accessed 1-13-16).

<sup>14</sup> Isaiah 9:6-7. [http://images.slideplayer.com/21/6268693/slides/slide\\_5.jpg](http://images.slideplayer.com/21/6268693/slides/slide_5.jpg). Accessed 12/15/16.