



The Miserable Blessing | **Luke 1**

Prosperity Message

The Message of Prosperity...

...Has Not Only Softened

...the Gospel Message

...it has Softened Many Pilgrims

This Mindset has Crept into the Church

We Want to Be An Overcomer...

..With Out the Challenge of Overcoming

We Want the Spoils of Victory ...

...Without the Scars of the Battle

That Has Never Been God's Plan

Shallow Victory

That Has Never Been God's Plan

He is Raising Up a Mighty Army...

...Not Afraid to Face the Challenge

...Not Afraid to Collect Scars

...to Stand in this Last Generation

...and Declare...

We Will Not Go Silently in the Night!

Mighty Army

Easy to Loose Sight of REAL BLESSINGS

Real Blessings Don't Always Come...

- **without Struggle**
- **without Pain**
- **with Answers**

Often Leaves You Asking..

Lord...

If I Am SO BLESSED...

...Then Why Am I So Miserable?

Why?

Distress

- **Blessing = Building**
- **Building = Struggle**
- **Struggle = Misery (temporary)**
- **Misery = Blessing**

2 Corinthians 4:17

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

- **Affliction**=distress, tribulation, misery

Misery

The Promise - Time

◦ Abraham Seed

The Problem - Test

◦ Barren

The Path - Testimony

◦ Let Go and Let God

Of a

B **Not Matter of Earning Blessing**

• **But Matter of Letting God**

• **Build You to Be Able to Handle Blessing**

• **Rem the Blessing Glorifies God**

The Miserable Blessing Starts...

Miserable

Zacharias and Elisabeth

- Zacharias Doubts Message -Miserable
- Zacharias Stricken Dumb -Miserable
- Elisabeth Happy but Hiding -Miserable
- Baby Not Moved til Mary Arrives - -Miserable
- Zacharias Mouth Opens When Delivers Name

Luke 1:26-31 (KJV)

*26 And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, 27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. 28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art **highly favoured**, the Lord is with thee: **blessed art thou among women.** 29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.*

*30 And the angel said unto her, **Fear not**, Mary: for thou hast **found favour with God.** 31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.*





The Miserable Blessing Story Continues...

Angel Appears to Mary and Says...

...You Are

- **Highly Favored**
- **Blessed**

...And He Could Have Added

...Stressed!

- 1st- Mary Has Trouble Believing Angel -Miserable**
- 2nd- Joseph Has Trouble Believing Mary –Miserable**
- 3rd- Trip To Bethlehem(90-100 mi =10 mi / day) –Miserable**
- 4th- Upon Arrival “No Room” but a Cave- Miserable**
- 5th- Shepherds Maneuvered in Night–Miserable**
- 6th- Wise Men-Travelled 2 years –at Night –Miserable**
- 7th- Uprooted Middle Of Night – Miserable**
- 8th- Herod Kills All Male Children 2 / under -Miserable**

Miserable

But Blessed

You Never Judge Your Blessing

- **During the Process**
- **But By the End Product**



Process Makes You Tough Wilderness is There to Purge Your...

- Motives
- Faith
- Fear



Isaiah 43:1-3 (KJV)

¹ But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. ² When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. ³ For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour

Misery is in the Process

Isaiah 43:1-3 (NLT)

¹ But now, O Jacob, listen to the LORD who created you. O Israel, the one who formed you says, "Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. ² When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you. ³ For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

Isaiah 43:1-3 (MSG)

¹ But now, GOD's Message, the God who made you in the first place, Jacob, the One who got you started, Israel: "Don't be afraid, I've redeemed you. I've called your name. You're mine. ² When you're in over your head, I'll be there with you. When you're in rough waters, you will not go down. When you're between a rock and a hard place, it won't be a dead end— ³ Because I am GOD, your personal God, The Holy of Israel, your Savior. I paid a huge price for you: all of Egypt, with rich Cush and Seba thrown in!

**Thank God for...
...Our Miserable Blessings**

