

Luke 1:42

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And she spake out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.

Analysis

Elisabeth's Spirit-filled greeting proclaims Mary 'blessed among women' and 'blessed is the fruit of thy womb.' The term 'blessed' (Greek 'eulogēmenē,' εὐλογημένη) indicates divine favor and approval. Elisabeth's recognition of Mary's special status and the blessing of her child comes through prophetic insight—the Holy Spirit reveals what Elisabeth could not know naturally. This greeting echoes Jael's blessing (Judges 5:24) and anticipates Mary's Magnificat. The 'fruit of thy womb' language emphasizes Jesus' true humanity—conceived in Mary, genuinely human.

Historical Context

Elisabeth's greeting occurs during Mary's visit, immediately after conception. The formal blessing formula 'blessed among women' was traditional in Jewish culture for praising exceptional women. Elisabeth's immediate recognition of Mary's pregnant condition and the child's significance demonstrates supernatural knowledge—the Holy Spirit enabling prophetic insight. This scene establishes a pattern: the Holy Spirit reveals Christ's identity to those with spiritual sensitivity (Simeon, Anna, etc.) while others remain blind.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does Elisabeth's Spirit-enabled recognition of Mary's blessing illustrate spiritual insight versus natural knowledge?
2. What does calling Jesus 'the fruit of thy womb' establish about the incarnation's genuine humanity?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἀνεφώνησεν φωνῇ μεγάλῃ καὶ εἶπεν εὐλογημένος

And she spake out voice with a loud And said Blessed

G2532 G400 G5456 G3173 G2532 G2036 G2127

σὺ ἐν γυναιξίν καὶ εὐλογημένος ὁ καρπὸς τῆς

art thou among women And Blessed G3588 is the fruit G3588

G4771 G1722 G1135 G2532 G2127 G2590

κοιλίας σου

womb of thy

G2836 G4675

Additional Cross-References

Luke 19:38 (Blessing): Saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest.

Judges 5:24 (Blessing): Blessed above women shall Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite be, blessed shall she be above women in the tent.

Genesis 22:18 (Blessing): And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Luke 1:28 (Blessing): 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.

Psalms 21:6 (Blessing): For thou hast made him most blessed for ever: thou hast made him exceeding glad with thy countenance.

Luke 1:48 (Blessing): For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

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