

Luke 1:43

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

Analysis

Elisabeth's question 'whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?' expresses both humility and theological insight. Her recognition of Mary as 'mother of my Lord' demonstrates Holy Spirit-given understanding that Mary's child is the Lord (Greek 'Kurios'), the covenant name of God. Elisabeth's wonder at this honor echoes David's response when the ark came to him (2 Sam 6:9). She discerns not merely that Mary is pregnant, but that Mary carries the divine Messiah. This Spirit-illuminated recognition confirms to Mary that her conception is indeed of God. Elisabeth's humility models proper response to God's grace.

Historical Context

Elisabeth, as the older, pregnant woman and wife of a priest, held higher social status than young, newly pregnant Mary. Yet she immediately recognizes and defers to Mary's greater honor as mother of Messiah, showing spiritual maturity that transcends social convention.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit enable Elisabeth to recognize Jesus's identity in Mary's womb?
2. What does Elisabeth's humility teach about responding to God's choice of others?
3. Why is the title 'my Lord' for the unborn Jesus significant theologically?

Interlinear Text

καὶ πόθεν μοι τοῦτο ἵνα ἔλθῃ ἡ μήτηρ τοῦ
And whence to me is this that should come the mother G3588 G3588
G2532 G4159 G3427 G5124 G2443 G2064 G3384

κυρίου μου πρὸς μέ
Lord of my to me G2962 G3450 G4314 G3165

Additional Cross-References

John 20:28 (References Lord): And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

Philippians 2:3 (Parallel theme): Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

Psalms 110:1 (References Lord): The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

Luke 2:11 (References Lord): For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

1 Samuel 25:41 (References Lord): And she arose, and bowed herself on her face to the earth, and said, Behold, let thine handmaid be a servant to wash the feet of the servants of my lord.

