

Luke 1:55

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

As he spake to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed for ever.

Analysis

Mary specifies that God spoke mercy 'to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed for ever,' grounding Jesus's coming in the Abrahamic covenant (Gen 12:1-3; 17:7). The promise extends beyond ethnic Israel to all who share Abraham's faith (Gal 3:7, 29). The phrase 'for ever' establishes the eternal nature of God's covenant—not limited to one generation or era but extending throughout all ages. This verse demonstrates the unity of Scripture and redemptive history—God's promise to Abraham finds fulfillment in Christ. Mary's theology recognizes continuity between Old and New Testaments, both revealing God's sovereign grace in saving His chosen people.

Historical Context

God's promise to Abraham initiated the covenant relationship that culminates in Christ. Mary, as a Jewish woman steeped in Scripture, understood her role in this covenant history. The promise 'to his seed' (singular) points ultimately to Christ (Gal 3:16), through whom all nations are blessed.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does the Abrahamic covenant connect Old Testament promises to New Testament fulfillment?
2. What does it mean to be part of Abraham's spiritual seed through faith?
3. How does recognizing God's eternal covenant encourage perseverance in faith?

Interlinear Text

καθὼς ἐλάλησεν πρὸς τοὺς πατέρας ἡμῶν τῷ Ἀβραὰμ
As he spoke to fathers our to Abraham
G2531 G2980 G3588 G3962 G2257 G3588 G11

καὶ τῷ σπέρματι αὐτοῦ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα
and G3588 seed to his for G3588 ever
G2532 G4690 G846 G1519 G165

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 17:19 (Parallel theme): And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

Genesis 26:4 (Parallel theme): And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed;

Genesis 12:3 (Parallel theme): And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

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