

PULPIT MINISTRY

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2018

Theme: “With Exceedingly Great Joy” Matthew 2:10

DECEMBER 2018

MORNING WORSHIP

2 December 2018

Text: Luke 1:46-55

Title: “My spirit has rejoiced in the Lord”

THE MANY NUANCES OF JOY

1. A child’s Joy

- a) Short-lived and transient
- b) But it is still valid, true and of some value

2. Natural Joy

- a) Food
- b) Family
- c) Fun
- d) Achievements

3. A joy that comes from the spirit of a person

- a) This is rarer
- b) But possible and desirable

FINDING THIS JOY OF THE SPIRIT

1. It was in Mary

- a) A young lady
- b) Of humble origins
- c) But one who was found faithful and true

2. How did this joy come about?

- a) It was not there originally
- b) Not even when the angel Gabriel made a special announcement to her
- c) Not even when she accepted what the angel Gabriel said to her

3. Features of a joy of the spirit

- a) It is located in the Lord

*“My soul magnifies the Lord
My spirit has rejoiced in God my Saviour” Luke 1:46-47*

- b) It is to be found in depth of understanding of God’s blessings
 - i) Consciousness of lowly state... a handmaiden
 - ii) Consciousness of the greatness of God
- c) It is further supported by a deeper understanding of God’s work
 - i) Consciousness of the mighty work that God was doing in her life
 - ii) Consciousness of the great mercy God has bestowed
 - iii) Consciousness of the strength of God shown

d) It is found in a deeper comprehension of how God was fulfilling His covenant promise to Abraham and to Israel

i) Promise

ii) Fulfilment