The Magnificat before the Magnificat

Samson, Samuel, and Ruth lived at about the same time, near the end of the period of the Judges. Samuel’s mother was barren. When the Lord gave her a son, she praised God in language very similar to Mary’s praise for her Son (which is called *The Magnificat*). The theme of both prayers is this: *God helps the humble.*

*Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time* (1Peter 5:6).

**1. God’s humble people have *enemies*** (v. 1).

(But God brings them down.)

A. They boast *proudly* (v. 3)

B. They are *mighty* (v. 4)

C. They are *full* (v. 5)

D. They are *rich* (v. 7)

**2. God’s humble people have *God*.**

A. His is our *Savior* (v. 1).

B. He is *holy* (v. 2).

C. He is our *Rock* (v. 2).

D. He knows *everything* (v. 3)

**3. God’s humble people have *victory*** (vv**.** 1)

The Lord gives—

A. *Strength* for our weakness (v. 4)

B. *Satisfaction* for our hunger (v. 5)

C. *Exaltation* for our lowliness (v. 6-8)

D. *Perseverance* on our path (v. 9)

E. *A King* for our protection (v. 10)

**Conclusion:** Humble yourself with *praise*

**For additional study or family discussion**

1. What did the Lord say to you today through His word? Did you learn some new truth about God or yourself? Did the Lord challenge you, convict you, or encourage you?

2. God is our Rock (v. 2)—our place of stable, reliable protection. What do you find out about our Rock in the following passages?

Deuteronomy 32:4, 15, 18, 30-31

Psalm 18:2, 31, 46

Psalm 31:2-3

Psalm 62:2, 6, 7

1 Corinthians 10:4

3. The “horn” (vv. 1 & 10) represents strength. Think of the horns of an angry bull. What does Scripture say about the “horn” of strength in the following passages?

Numbers 23:22

Deuteronomy 33:17

Job 16:15 (NASB correctly “horn,” ESV “strength,” NKJ “head”)

Psalm 75:4, 5, 10