

The First Christmas Songs

Study by Jason Labonte

I. *Magnificat* (Lk 1:46-55)

A. The singer: Mary

B. The time: about 9 months before the birth

C. See also: Hannah's Song (1 Sa 2:1-10)

D. Questions

1. What do you think is the main purpose of Mary's song?
2. What are the main themes?
3. What is said to be given to us in the song?
4. What does the song reveal about Jesus?
5. What does the song reveal about God?
6. What does the song reveal about Mary?
7. What is the significance of the similarity to Hannah's Song?

II. *Gloria in Excelsis Deo* (Lk 2:14)

A. The singers: a multitude of the heavenly army

B. The time: the night of the birth

C. Note: "With whom He is pleased" is a restrictive clause.

D. Questions

1. What do you think is the main purpose of the Host's song?
2. What is the main theme?
3. What is said to be given to us in the song?
4. What does the song reveal about Jesus?
5. What does the song reveal about God?
6. What does the song reveal about angels?

III. (Lk 2:29-32)

A. The singer: Simeon

B. The time: 40 days after the birth

C. Questions

1. What do you think is the main purpose of the Simeon's song?
2. What are the main themes?
3. What is said to be given to us in the song?
4. What does the song reveal about Jesus?
5. What does the song reveal about God?
6. What does the song reveal about Simeon?