

I. Anticipated - Luke 2:25-27

1. About a month after the shepherds come
2. Simeon (**verse 25**)
 - devout
 - waiting for the consolation of Israel - the coming Messiah
- Rea -how would that “console” Israel?
- the Holy Ghost was on him - Num. 11:25
- Rea -in the book of Judges the Holy Spirit comes on people for special events, here, this is more of an on-going anointing
2. The Holy Ghost told him that he would see this event (**verse 26**) - Jesus’ coming
3. Simeon is ministering in the temple
4. Mary and Joseph bring the child (**verse 27**)
 - Mary completed her purification process
 - Numbers 18:15-16 required a sacrifice
- Rea -a sacrifice of thanksgiving
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
 1. Some believe that this visit to the temple was for circumcision - or naming the child
 2. God orchestrated them all being at the temple at the same time
 3. An assurance to parents that Jesus was all that the angels had said He would be
 4. Sometimes we have to wait a long time for God to fulfill His promises

II. Recognized - Luke 2:28-35

1. He takes the child and blessed God (**verse 28**)
- Rea -“blessed” God, not the baby
2. Now I can die in peace (**verse 29**)
 - thy servant
 - personally submitted to God
- Rea -which means he’s willing to wait
3. My eyes have seen (**verse 30**)
- Rea -eyes saw what his heart already believed (that’s the order of things with God)
4. Salvation was vested in a person - Jesus
5. Described this messiah (**verses 31-32**)
 - A. A light for all people
 - B. A light to lighten the Gentiles
 - C. And the glory of you people, Israel
- Rea 6. The light of the world is Jesus
 - Is. 60 - arise and shine for your light has come
7. “Prepared” by God
8. His parents “marvel” (**verse 33**)
- Rea -possibly they “marveled” at the timing and this reassurance about Jesus
 - our writer says that the marvel was that the Messiah would be for “all” peoples
9. Simeon blessed them (**verse 34**)
 - them all
10. Note that his next words are to Mary

- the rise and fall of many in Israel
- a sword shall pierce through thy soul (**verse 35**)
- many hearts will be revealed
- He will be spoken against - He will be opposed

Rea 11. Simeon's prophecy about this baby's future

Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

1. Young parents have many anxieties and questions
2. A miracle of timing - that they would both be there at just the right time
3. The prophecy has both positive and negative words about Jesus
4. The story of Jesus ...unfolds

III. Shared - Luke 2:36-38

1. Anna the prophetess (**verse 36**)

A. Father is Phanuel

B. Tribe is Asher

C. Married for seven years and a widow for 84 years (**verse 37**)
 -“great age”

2. Night and day she did not depart from the Temple

3. Served God with fastings and prayers

4. “Night and day”

5. Coming in at that instant (**verse 38**)

Rea -miracle of timing - again

6. Spoke of those who looked for the “redemption” of Israel
 -as Messiah

Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

1. Both these characters were “looking” for the Messiah - and got to see Him
2. This is the “first advent” vs we look (now) for Jesus’ “second advent” (coming)
3. A life-time of waiting and serving was rewarded
 - the aged sometimes serve as bridges to what God is doing next
 - both she and Simeon were believers who’d seen “another age” - we would do well to listen to our senior adults
4. A human instrument gave a spiritual and eternal prophecy
5. Words spoken in antiquity are being fulfilled in our lives (also)

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