



NO LIMITS
WITH PASTOR DELMAN

I KNOW WHAT I



HEARD

S E R M O N G U I D E

I Know What I Heard

Luke 2:25-35

INTRODUCTION

NOTES

Simeon was a man who received a promise from God that he would not see death without seeing the birth of the Lord’s Messiah. And it was that promise that moved him to get his life in order. That promise led him to get in the right position, to get to a place of peace, and to develop and maintain the right spiritual and moral posture to see Jesus. Take note of those three things I just mentioned: He had a promise, he gets in position, and he maintains the right posture. He hears God’s voice, he puts himself in an environment where there is peace and not confusion, and he is active in developing himself spiritually and in being a man of integrity. And by getting his life aligned with God, he’s able to see what God wants him to see. The same can happen for you too. If you open your heart and mind to hear God’s voice, if you position yourself in places and with people that produce peace, and if you order your steps to get in line with what God says, then you can see what God wants you to see, go where God wants you to go, be what God wants you to be, and do what God wants you to do.

KEY POINTS

1. Cultivate patience

As important as it is to have patience, it is often something that proves difficult for most people. It is difficult because we live in a world where people are used to getting things instantly. There are instant grits, instant coffee, instant information, instant data, instant research, Instagram, Instacart, instant messaging, and instant dating. Many people struggle with waiting on God when they are so used to getting everything else right away. And the truth is that’s why you’re feeling so frustrated right now because you want the blessings of God, but you don’t want to wait for them.

You want instant answers, instant success, instant breakthroughs, and instant victories. You want prosperity, but you don’t want to save, don’t want to invest, and don’t want to defer your gratification. Your frustration isn’t with the promise. You like the promise. Your frustration is with the amount of time it’s taking for the promise to come to pass. You like what God has spoken over you. You’re just struggling with the distance between the revelation and the manifestation. But if we are to ever be able to experience the Lord for ourselves, then we, like Simeon, must learn how to cultivate patience.

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2. Surrender to the Holy Spirit

Three times before Simeon even sees Jesus, Luke points out how the Spirit of God was upon him, inside of him, and guiding him. The Spirit rested upon him in verse 25, the Spirit was inside him in verse 26, and the Spirit led him in verse 27 when he went into the temple. He was surrendered to the Spirit, he was spoken to by the Spirit, and he was guided by the Spirit.

I think it's safe to say that Luke is trying to clue us into a key element for Christian living, and that's the power of the Holy Spirit. There are some things you can do with a good plan. There are other things you can do on your own strength. But if you want God to move in your life, it won't happen until you surrender your life to the power of the Holy Spirit.

3. Get in the presence of God

Simeon does not go to the Lord's house to get the Spirit. He already has the Spirit on him, in him, and with him when he comes into the house of the Lord. He doesn't need a preacher, a praise leader, or a musician to create the presence. When he walks into the Lord's house, he already has the Spirit. All too often, it seems we depend on others to pump us up so that we can say we had a good time when really we should enter His presence in the Spirit. Simeon shows us that we don't have to wait until we get to God's house to get in His presence.

4. Respond with praise.

When God does what He says He's going to do, when God moves how He said he would move, the appropriate response is to give God praise. Simeon shows us this truth by the way he responds when he finally meets Jesus. But this wasn't any kind of praise. This was a praise that was focused on what God was going to do for others.

Simeon blesses Mary and Joseph and begins to prophesy not about health and wealth but about the lives of others that were about to be changed. That's real praise - when you can praise God not just for you, but your neighbor. Perhaps that's what God is waiting for you to do - not just praise God for yourself, but for your neighbor.

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. What promise are you having to be patient for right now?
2. What does it look like practically to live surrendered to the Holy Spirit?
3. When was the last time you responded with praise when God answered your prayer or fulfilled a promise in your life? How did that response strengthen your faith?
