



*I've
Come
Too Far*

S E R M O N G U I D E

I've Come Too Far

Luke 2:25-33

INTRODUCTION

Are you struggling with finding the strength to keep waiting on God? Are you starting to grow weary in your attempts to persevere? If that's you, then I have no doubt that today's key passage will encourage you and help you right where you're at. In Luke 2, Simeon shows us that the passage of time does not cancel God's plan, and that if you can just hold on, you can make it. You can make it through the grief that accompanies the loss of a loved one. You can make it past the financial uncertainty that comes with losing your job. You can make it through the loneliness that comes after a breakup. You can survive a season of depression until you come through it on the other side. You can make it through this health challenge until the doctor says you're healed. Simeon shows us how we can make it, and his example is exactly what we're going to study in this message.

KEY POINTS

1. You Must Hold Onto God's Promise

Our key text tells us in verse 26 that the Holy Spirit revealed to Simeon that he would not see death before being able to see the Lord's Messiah. That was the promise that was made over his life, and even with the passage of many years without it happening, the Bible says that when Jesus was brought into the temple, Simeon was still in the house of God. He was still there. Simeon had not grown so tired, so weary, or so frustrated that he had given up on that promise. I suspect he said to himself, "I've come too far for me to give up now."

We, like Simeon, need to get in touch with God's promise for our lives. God's promise is what keeps us going when we want to give up. It's the remedy for frustration and the answer to discouragement. When you get a word and a promise from God for your life, it will help you keep running to see what God has for you in the end. But in order to persevere like that, you must hold onto God's promise.

2. You Must Be Led By The Spirit

Three times in verses 25-27, our key passage says that Simeon was led by the spirit. Verse 25 says the spirit was upon him. Verse 26 says the spirit was within him. And verse 27 says the spirit went before or led him.

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Everything Simeon did in life, and everything he does in the text, he does it by the power of the Holy Spirit. God's Spirit enables him to wait. God's spirit revealed the promise. And the Holy Spirit led him into the temple. This suggests that the Spirit sustains us until we see the manifestation of God's revelation. Just like Simeon, if we're going to see God's will come to pass in our lives, we need God's spirit upon us, God's spirit within us, and God's spirit to lead us.

3. You Must Respond In Unapologetic Praise

When Jesus is brought before him, Simeon breaks out in a praise song showing gratitude and thanksgiving to God. In this praise, he declares that God is in control of his life when he calls God, "Master" or "Sovereign Lord." He looks at baby Jesus and thanks the Lord, saying, "as you have promised."

He communicates that he is at peace in the midst of everything that has transpired. Despite his people waiting for a redeemer for 400 years, and despite waiting his entire life to see the savior, Simeon announces that he's at peace. He's saying, "God, you are in charge, and you are in control, and I'm at peace."

Simeon was absolutely content because God had made him a promise, a promise that he believed, and a promise that had finally come to pass. In the midst of a harsh and cruel world, Simeon holds on to a promise and praises God when it finally happens. When God has made you a promise, and you've been seeking His presence, you should praise just like Simeon did.

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No Limits with Pastor Delman

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. What is a promise you're waiting on God to fulfill right now?
2. When was the last time you felt led by the Holy Spirit to take action? What was the result of that situation?
3. How can you praise the Lord this week for His faithfulness in your life?
