

**There Is More to the Story:  
A Child of Unexpected Destiny  
December 17, 2023**

**Introduction:**

Text: Luke 2:21-35

**Big Idea:** Simeon longed for one thing and that “\_\_\_\_\_” influenced his entire life. **What you really want in life will always take you on a journey. What are you chasing after?**

**#1- Simeon’s description (25-28)**

- Nothing is recorded of Simeon’s background.
- Careful attention is given to Simeon’s inner life.
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - Devout
  - Waiting for the consolation of Israel
  - The Holy Spirit was upon him
  - The Holy Spirit had told him, “You will not die before you see the Messiah”

**Lesson for living #1 -** God is more concerned about your inward life than your outward life. **How is your heart today?**

**#2- Simeon’s proclamation (29-32)**

- God is faithful and can be \_\_\_\_\_ in an age of cynicism.
- His salvation would be a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Salvation is not something you \_\_\_\_\_, it’s someone you \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Salvation is a \_\_\_\_\_.

**Lesson for living #2 –** Your salvation will be found only in a PERSON. **Is Jesus your salvation?**

**#3-- Simeon prediction (33-35)**

- Simeon predicted **the baby child would cause conflict** \_\_\_\_\_ people.
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**Lesson for living #3 –** A follower of Jesus will become acquainted with an inward warfare and inward peace. God’s peace comes after the inward conflict of repentance and surrender. **Experience God’s peace.**

**Connect Card:**

- **What truth did you learn from Simeon?**
- **How can we pray for you?**



Please understand we want to help you know Jesus personally and journey with you in taking fresh steps of obedience daily. We would love to pray with you and for you. Join us at the end of the service for prayer or send us your request on the Connect Card and we will lift them up throughout the week.

## Table Talk

(A guide to be used to grow as a disciple of Jesus by yourself, as a family or small group)

**WARM UP:** What is your favorite season of the year? Describe how you anticipate and prepare for that season. Describe how you feel when that season finally comes.

1. What do these verses teach you about Joseph and Mary?
2. What is the meaning of the name Jesus?
3. Who and what was Simeon waiting for?
4. What do we learn about Simeon (v.25)?
5. What role did the Holy Spirit play in Simeon's life according to these verses (25-27)?
6. Simeon's whole life purpose was to see the face of the world's Savior and King, Jesus. Is this a compelling "life purpose" for you? What are some specific ways your walk with Jesus might look if your primary objective was to look upon and be in the presence of God (28-32)?
7. What does the "spear" refer to? How do you think Mary processed this (33-35)?

**PRAYER:** Thank you, Father for the example of Simeon. Reorder my hearts passions for You so that I can see your salvation and not fear death. This Christmas cause me to find my joy in your salvation. Amen!

Resources:

John MacArthur, Luke

R.C. Sproul, Luke: A Walk With God

Kent Hughes, Luke: That You May Know

Timothy Keller, Hidden Christmas

Daniel Darling, The Characters of Christmas