

# CHARACTERS OF CHRISTMAS







"When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord'), and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: 'a pair of doves or two young pigeons.'"

Luke 2:22-24



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Luke 2:22-24





"Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him."

Luke 2:25



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"Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.  
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem and proclaim to her that  
her hard service has been completed, that her sin has  
been paid for." ~ Isaiah 40:1-2







**Lesson #1:** Hope is birthed out of deep longings and desperate needs.



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"It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah."

Luke 2:26





**Lesson #1:** Hope is birthed out of deep longings and desperate needs.

**Lesson #2:** Hope is found in a Person, not in a plan.





“Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms...”

Luke 2:27-28a



(He) praised God, saying:  
'Sovereign Lord, as you have  
promised, you may now  
dismiss your servant in  
peace. For my eyes have  
seen your salvation, which  
you have prepared in the  
sight of all nations: a light  
for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and the glory of your people  
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"Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: 'This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.'"

Luke 2:34-35





“For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. To the one, we are the aroma of death leading to death, and to the other the aroma of life leading to life.”



2 Corinthians 2:14-16



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**Lesson #2:** Hope is found in a Person, not in a plan.

**Lesson #3:** At his arrival and into the present - Jesus remains a polarizing figure

# 1988 Armenian Earthquake





