

Hope Is Here (Pt.3: The Divine Encounter)

Luke 2:25-38

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We are starting this series to remind ourselves that the hope of this season isn't found in the boxes under the tree or the 'perfection' of our holiday plans. True hope isn't found in a *product*... it's found in a Person. Two thousand years ago, Jesus Christ stepped into our story and changed the course of history forever.

His arrival wasn't a secret... it was a global announcement.

And that announcement still speaks to us today, offering us

- The promise of Comfort
- The promise of Patience
- The promise of Rescue

CONTEXT: After Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph stayed in Bethlehem until Jesus was circumcised, and Mary's days of purification had ended.

... but before heading back to Nazareth, they brought Jesus to the temple, and that's where we pick up our story.

- **THE PROMISE OF COMFORT (v25-26)**

Ephesians 2:4-5 “*But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,⁵ even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),*”

- **THE PROMISE OF PATIENCE (v27-35)**

Luke 2:29-32 “*Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, According to Your word;³⁰ For my eyes have seen Your salvation³¹ Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples,³² A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, And the glory of Your people Israel.*”

2 Corinthians 6:2 “*...Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*”

2 Peter 3:9 (NLT) “*The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.*”

- **THE PROMISE OF RESCUE (v36-38)**

Deuteronomy 19:15 “*...by the mouth of two or three witnesses the matter shall be established.*”

Hebrews 6:18-19 (NLT) “*...Therefore, we who have fled to him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us.¹⁹ This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls...*”

HOW DO WE APPLY THIS TO MONDAY MORNING?