

NEXT STEPS

- Where do you need to be more bold in your faith?
- How can you display the hope and peace that we have in Jesus?
- Who needs to receive a special outpouring of your love this Christmas?



THE TRUTH ABOUT CHRISTMAS

By Pastor Craig Rayment

The truth about Christmas is:

LOYALTY TO JESUS WILL BRING _____.

Today's secular world is united around 3 core beliefs:

- Religious influence is holding _____ back.
- A single community throughout the world (a global alliance) would be a _____.
- Humanity is _____ our planet.

LUKE 2:21-35
Simeon meets Jesus

“Now Lord, let Your servant depart in peace; for in accordance with Your word my eyes have seen Your salvation” (vv.29-30).

This is called the *Nunc dimittis* in Latin. It means “permission to depart.”

Simeon says the Christ-Child will be:

A Light to the Gentiles and the glory of Israel (v.32).

A FOUR-FOLD PROPHECY

Simeon makes four prophetic statements that need to be included in the Christmas Story.

1. Jesus will be the cause for the _____ and _____ of many in Israel.

2. Jesus will be a sign to be _____.

Matthew 10:34

John 15:20

Psalm 120:7

3. A sword will pierce Mary's _____.

The sad news: Mary saw her son die.

The good news: Mary saw her son after His resurrection!

4. At the end, the _____ of many hearts will be _____.

What this means is:

Jesus is the _____ of history!

