



## Reading from Luke 2:25-38

*Luke 2:25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup> And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. <sup>27</sup> And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup> he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,*

*<sup>29</sup> "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;*

*<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation <sup>31</sup> that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,*

*<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."*

*<sup>33</sup> And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him.*

*<sup>34</sup> And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup> (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."*

*<sup>36</sup> And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, <sup>37</sup> and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup> And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.*

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**BI:** When it comes to the story of Christmas, it is not so much that Jesus judges a person as it is that a person judges themselves by their [reaction](#) to Him.

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- I. Religious Devotion, Jesus Dedication (Luke 2:27; cf., vv. 21-24)
- II. Simeon's Promise, Simeon's Prophecy (2:25-35)
- III. Anna's Worship, Anna's Evangelism (2:36-38)

## Application In Community

**Welcome:** We are thrilled that you are here. God is on the move in Seattle and in our church. This Christmas is the opportunity to understand the Christmas story, which is the GOSPEL, and to share the story that the world may know Jesus as King.

If you are not part of a group, we encourage you to get involved so that you feel part of a Christian family. To join a group, connect with Tiea Hanson. She is our Director of Connections. She will be at the Information Desk or out in the foyer at the end of the worship service. You can also email her at [tieah@gracechurchseattle.org](mailto:tieah@gracechurchseattle.org) –



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**Application Q's:** We believe the truths of Christ are best contemplated, discussed & practiced in community. This is the purposes of Home Communities.

- A. Do you have family traditions surrounding the birth of a child, the coming of age, Christmas, etc.? {Share with the group}
- B. Read Luke 2:21-24 – and for context, read:
  - a. Leviticus 12:3 – Circumcision of a male on the 8<sup>th</sup> day.
  - b. Leviticus 12:2-8 – Purification of a woman after childbirth.
  - c. Numbers 18:15-16 – Redemption of the Firstborn Son.
- C. Related to Q.B – do you believe we have lost a sense of tradition and thus devotion in 21<sup>st</sup> Century American Christianity?
- D. Are there things we can or maybe should do as a community to bring a sense of devotion to the LORD to pass on as legacy to our children? {Pray about it and discern what the LORD might lead you to do}