

HOPE IS BORN
Hear to Here
Luke 2
Week 3 December 15, 2019
Pastor Mike Popovich

We are waiting.

The anticipation adds to the excitement of all the good things we wait for at Christmas.

When the man and woman said no to God and ate the fruit they were put out of the garden and the relationship became distant and strained.

The story of the bible is how God acted to restore that relationship.

Through prophets like Isaiah God had said a Messiah would come and save His people. So they waited.

There are two people not well known in the Christmas story. A man named Simeon and an old woman named Anna.

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. 26 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. 27 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, 28 Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

*29 "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.*

30 For my eyes have seen your salvation,

31 which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

*32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel."*

Luke 2:25-32 NIV

Simeon was waiting for the salvation of Israel

The promise of God was He would provide a savior, the Messiah, to reestablish the relationship between God and His creation.

Joseph and Mary's Reaction

The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. 34 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, 35 so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

Luke 2:33-35 NIV

Isaiah's prophecy in the 6th century B.C.

*6 For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

Isaiah 9:6 NIV

Three observations about waiting for God to show up.

1. WHAT you are waiting for often determines HOW you wait
2. HOW you wait often affects your PRESENT reality
3. When the waiting is over, we ought to respond with worship

When God makes a promise He will deliver.