

# WAITING LIKE SIMEON

Wonderful Mercy Church

27 December 2020



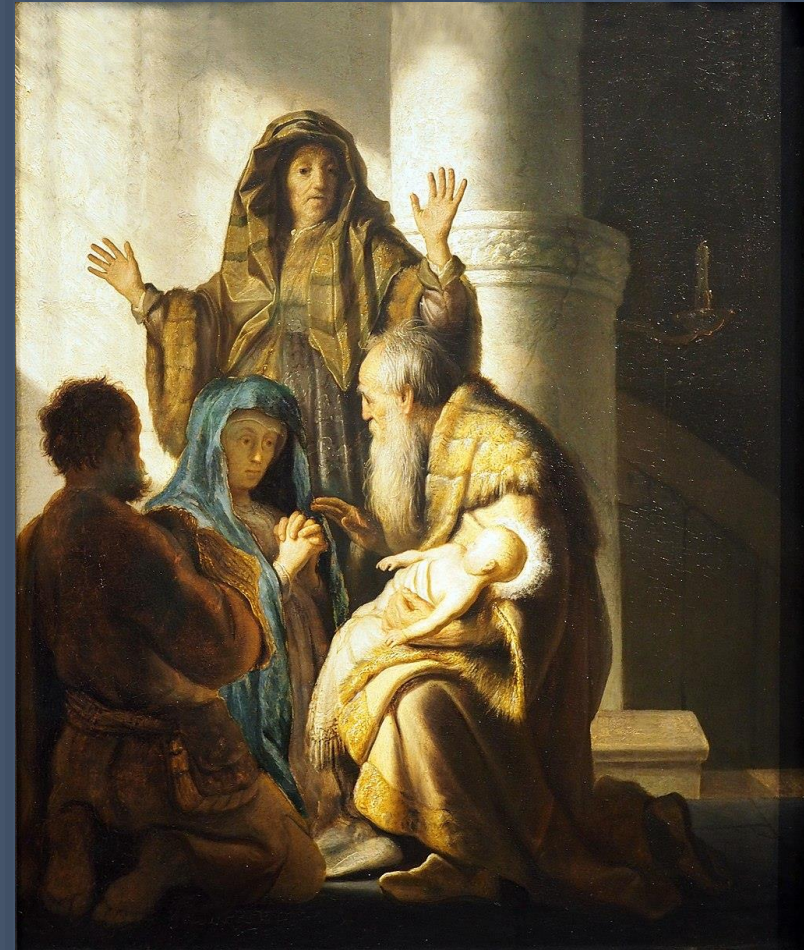
**2020:  
A Year of Waiting**

# GALATIANS 4:4(a)

- But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son... (ESV)
- But when the right time came, God sent his Son... (NLT)
- But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son... (NIV)
- But when the time arrived that was set by God the Father, God sent his Son... (MSG)

## LUKE 2:22-40 (ESV)

And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons."



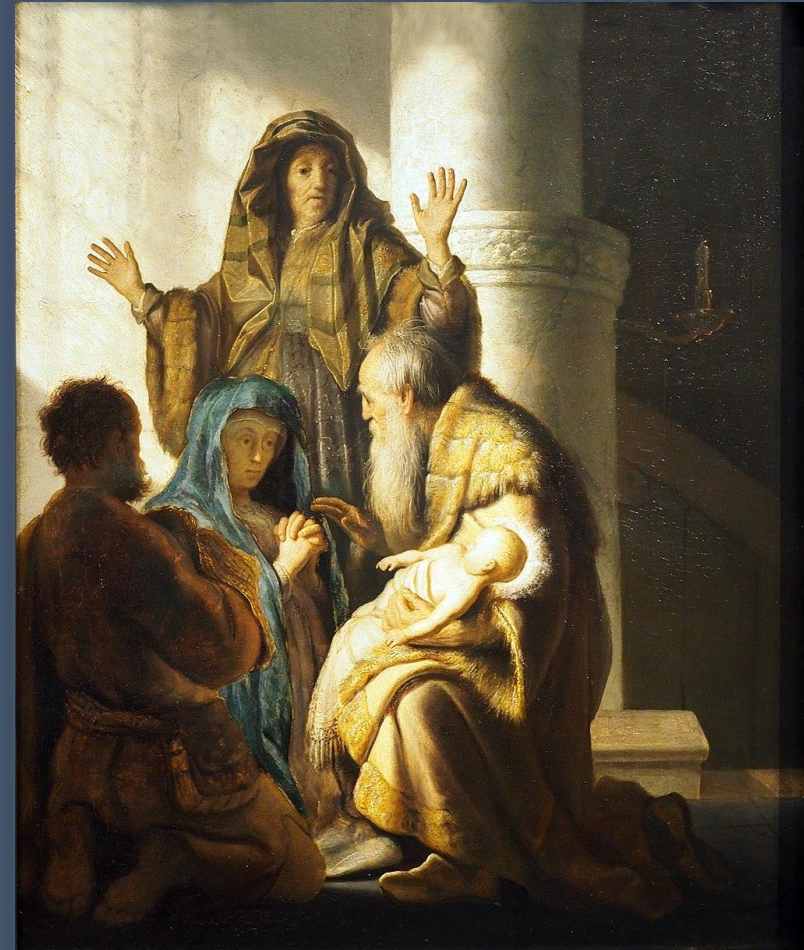
## LUKE 2:22-40 (ESV)

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. 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.



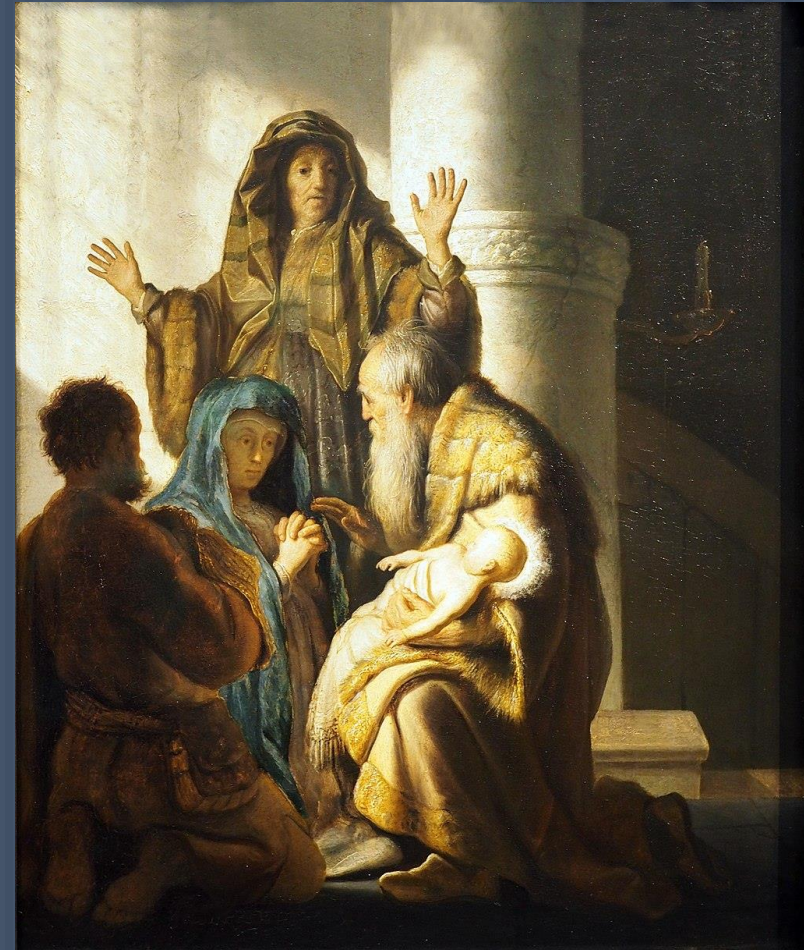
# LUKE 2:22-40 (ESV)

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, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,



## LUKE 2:22-40 (ESV)

“Lord, now you are letting your servant  
depart in peace,  
according to your word;  
for my eyes have seen your salvation  
that you have prepared in the presence  
of all peoples,  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and for glory to your people Israel.”



## LUKE 2:22-40 (ESV)

And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. 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 (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."





## LUKE 2:22-40 (ESV)

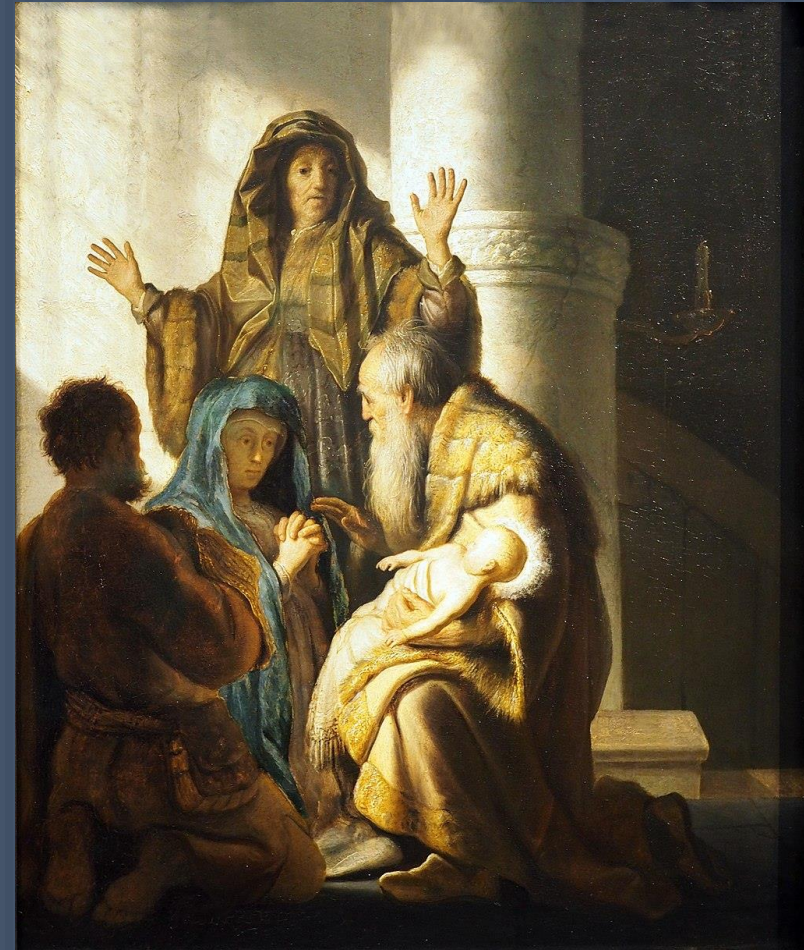
And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day.



## LUKE 2:22-40 (ESV)

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.

And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.



# THE 3D PLAN

- Distraction, leading to...
- Discouragement, leading to...
- Defeat

# THE TRIPLE-A PLAN

- Anticipation, leading to...
- Attentiveness, leading to...
- Activity

# SIMEON

- Waiting with anticipation, expecting something to happen

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  - He was attentive to what he saw when he got there

# SIMEON

- Waiting with Anticipation, expecting something to happen
- Anticipation leads to attentiveness
  - He was alert to call of the Spirit to go to the temple
  - He was attentive to what he saw when he got there
- Attention leads to Action
  - Went to the temple
  - Praises God for the fulfillment of his word
  - Carries God's word to Mary

# ANNA

- Also waiting
- Also Anticipating, Attentive, and Active
  - In the temple 24x7
  - Perceives God's action through Simeon
  - Shares the good news, with "all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem"



# HENRI NOUWEN ON WAITING

"Most of us consider waiting as something very passive, a hopeless state determined by events totally out of our hands. The bus is late? We cannot do anything about it, so we have to sit there and just wait. It is not difficult to understand the irritation people feel when somebody says, 'Just wait.' Words like that push us into passivity.

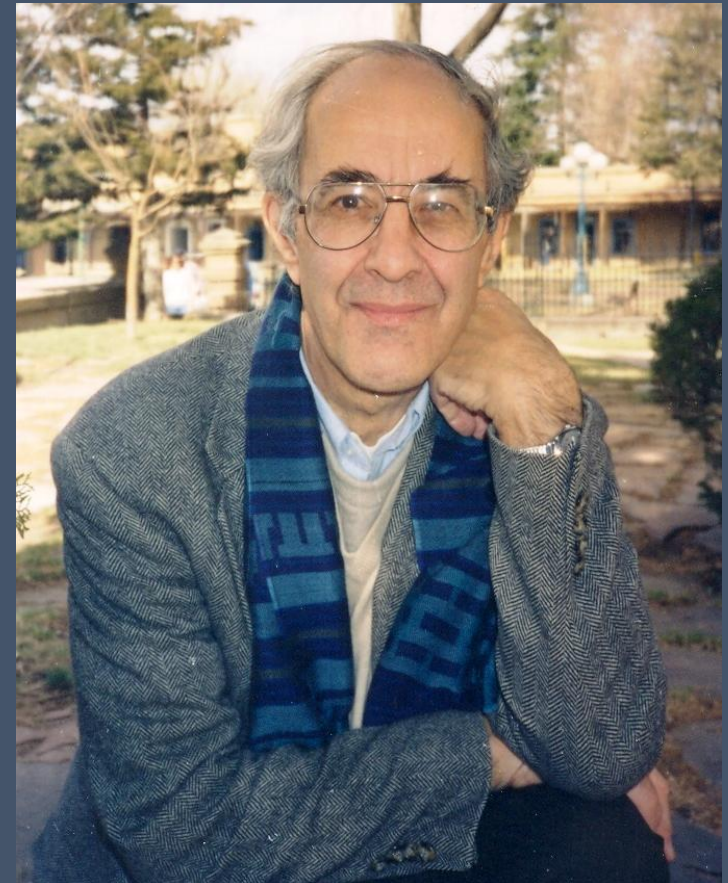


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# HENRI NOUWEN ON WAITING

“But there is none of this passivity in Scripture. Those who are waiting are waiting very actively. They know that what they are waiting for is growing from the ground on which they are standing. Right here is a secret for us about waiting.

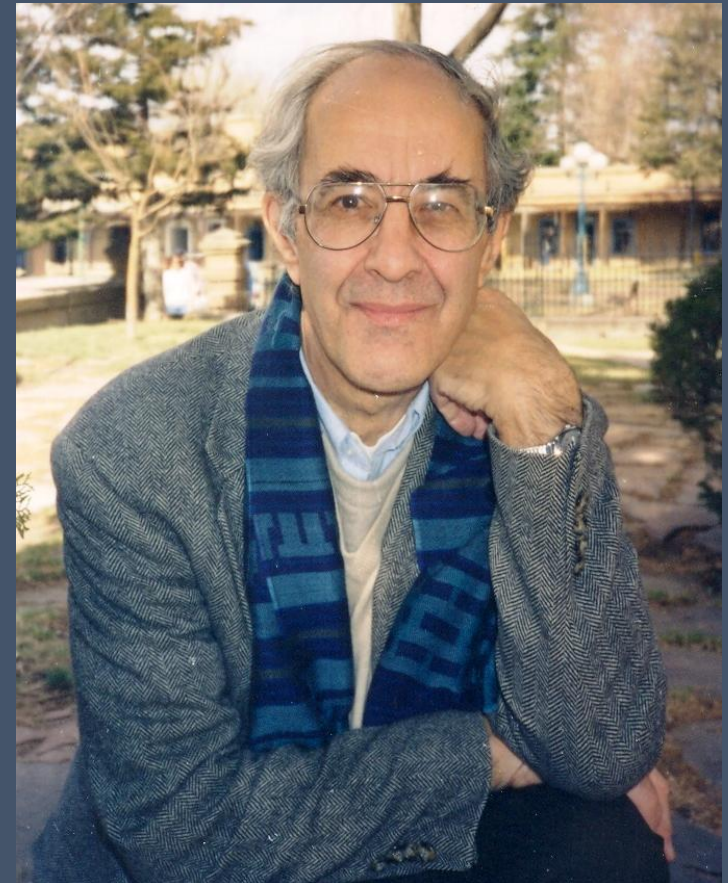


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# HENRI NOUWEN ON WAITING

“If we wait in the conviction that a seed has been planted and that something has already begun, it changes the way we wait. Active waiting implies being fully present to the moment with the conviction that something is happening where we are and that we want to be present to it. A waiting person is someone who is present to the moment, believing that moment is the moment.”

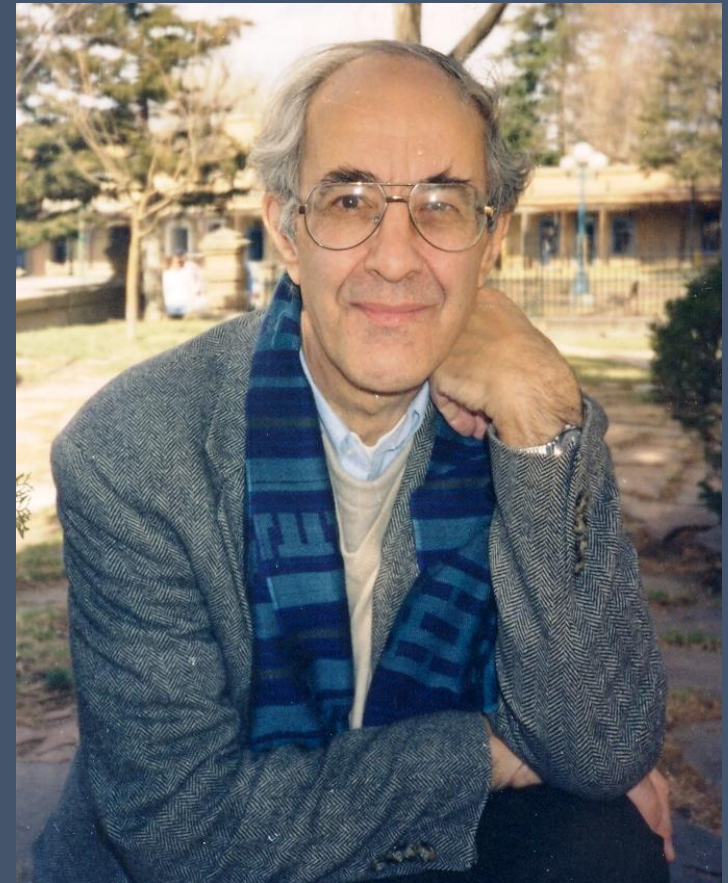


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