

Welcome To Sunday Night Bible Fellowship

Every word inspired.



Every word proclaimed.

“We proclaim Him, warning every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man mature in Christ.” Col 1:28

“Simeon”

Part 1

Luke 2:25-29

August 22, 2021

Luke 2:25-35

25 And there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him.

26 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.

27 And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law,

28 then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said,

29 "Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, According to Your word;

30 For my eyes have seen Your salvation,

31 Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

32 A LIGHT OF REVELATION TO THE GENTILES, And the glory of Your people Israel."

33 And His father and mother were amazed at the things which were being said about Him.

34 And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is appointed for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and for a sign to be opposed —

35 and a sword will pierce even your own soul — to the end that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

25 And there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him.

- **“Simeon”** = one who hears & obeys.
- Simeon appears here, and then he is gone.
- Plays an important part in the confirmation that this is the Messiah.
- **4 outstanding characteristics:**
 1. **Righteous** – Imputed – given at salvation. Justified before God.
Practical – manifesting a godly walk.
 2. **Devout** – *ευλαβησ* – holding something carefully, cautiously, and securely. One who is concerned about the things of God. Careful to obey God. Careful to honor God.
Careful to glorify God.
 3. **Looking for the Messiah** – spent his whole life in anticipation that he would see the Messiah. He had faith in the promises of God and in the fulfillment of the Covenants.
“looking” - *δεχνομαι* - to accept favorably and deliberately,
“consolation” – *παρακλησις* – **comfort** – God would comfort His people through the Messiah.

"Since he may come any day,
it is well to be ready every day."

- Hudson Taylor

The watchers on the mountain
Proclaim the Bridegroom near,
Go, meet Him as He comes,
With Hallelujahs clear!

The marriage feast is waiting,
The gates wide open stand
Up, up! ye heirs of glory,
The Bridegroom is at hand!"

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Charles Wesley

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in Thee.

2. Israel's Strength and Consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

3. Born Thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now Thy gracious kingdom bring.

4. By thine Own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts Alone;
by Thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to Thy glorious throne.

4. **Led by the Holy Spirit – Note:** “upon” not “in.” “in” = permanent.

John 14:17

17 that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be **in** you.

The symbols of the Holy Spirit in the N.T. are:

- oil ([John 3:34](#); [Heb 1:9](#));
- water ([John 7:38 - 39](#));
- wind ([John 3:8](#); [Acts 2:2](#));
- fire ([Acts 2:3](#));
- a dove ([Mat 3:16](#));
- a seal ([Eph 1:13](#); [4:30](#));
- "a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance" ([Eph 1:14](#)).

Luke 1:15

15 "For he will be great in the sight of the Lord; and he will drink no wine or liquor, and he will be filled with the **Holy Spirit** while yet in his mother's womb.

Luke 1:35

35 The angel answered and said to her, "The **Holy Spirit** will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God.

Luke 1:41

41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the **Holy Spirit**.

Luke 1:67

67 And his father Zacharias was filled with the **Holy Spirit**, and prophesied, saying:

Luke 2:25

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27 And he came in the **Spirit** into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law,

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Note: The Holy Spirit is not mystical nor is He to be neglected.

**“A Spirit filled man/woman is always
a Word filled man/woman.”**

- Before Pentecost the Holy Spirit convicted people of their sin, granted repentance, and brought the unbeliever to salvation. He inspired the Scriptures, enlightened believers to understand them, and enabled believers to accomplish great things for God. Without Him no one in the O.T. would be saved – justified, sanctified, and glorified.

Think about it -

1. In Jerusalem it would be difficult to find a man like Simeon. Many were atheists, agnostics, humanists, or caught up in the web of self-righteous religion – Pharisees, Sadducees, Essenes, Sanhedrin.

- Because much has changed over 400 years.

Mal 3:16

16 Then those who feared the Lord spoke to one another, and the Lord gave attention and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear the Lord and who esteem His name.

- God always has a few . . .
 - Lot in Sodom
 - Obadiah in Ahab's household
 - Daniel in Babylon
 - Jeremiah in Zedekiah's court
 - Simeon – Jerusalem
 - 120 at Pentecost
- 2. This is all we really need to know about Simeon – not the house he lived in, or where he shopped, or what he ate, or even his occupation.
 - Simeon was –
 - Led by the Spirit of God.
 - Taught by the Word of God.
 - Obedient to the Will of God.
 - Privileged to see the Salvation of God.
- If someone was to describe your Christian life, what 4 characteristics would they list?

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“had been revealed” – χρηματιζω - to declare, reveal, warn, admonish. Perfect tense – happened at a point in the past with continuing results. i.e. this is what drove Simeon – to see the Messiah before he died.

- **Question:** “If God were to withdraw His Holy Spirit from me, would I even notice the difference?”

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“came in the Spirit” – was led by the Spirit.

- Simeon was led by the Spirit to be in the temple at this particular moment.
- Just another ordinary day.
- Simeon is looking, as he always does.
- Mary and Joseph – just an ordinary couple. Unlikely couple.
- Don't always expect the extraordinary first. First may come the ordinary.
- They are there to obey the Law.
- How did the Spirit move Simeon to know? Conversation? Able to see and discern that this was the Messiah?
- He probably had asked God 10,000 times, “Is this the One?”
- Moments in life become appointments when you are led by the Spirit of God.
- You can look back and say, “That was a God thing.”

Coincidence

“When God does a miracle and remains anonymous.”

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- **Note:** Here is a man who knew that God held him in His arms, now he holds God in his arms.
- He was holding the salvation of the world.

“blessed” - “εὐλογεῶ” - to say good things about.

- Simeon praised God with deep joy because: 1. God had kept His word. 2. Israel would see their salvation. 3. He could now die in peace.

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in peace, According to Your word;**

“releasing” – απολυω – to relieve a sentry from his post, to release a prisoner, to untie a ship and set sail, to unyoke a beast of burden and to take down a tent.

“ It was as if Simeon were commanded by God to keep a lonely watch through the night until he saw the sun come up. This now was, for him, God’s sunrise, and because Jesus had come, Simeon could be relieved of his watch.”

- Dave Guzik

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- Simeon's work is done. He is ready to depart.

2 Tim 4:7-8

7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith;

8 in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

Question: Are you ready to depart? Are you ready to leave it all behind?