

“Simeon”

Part 2

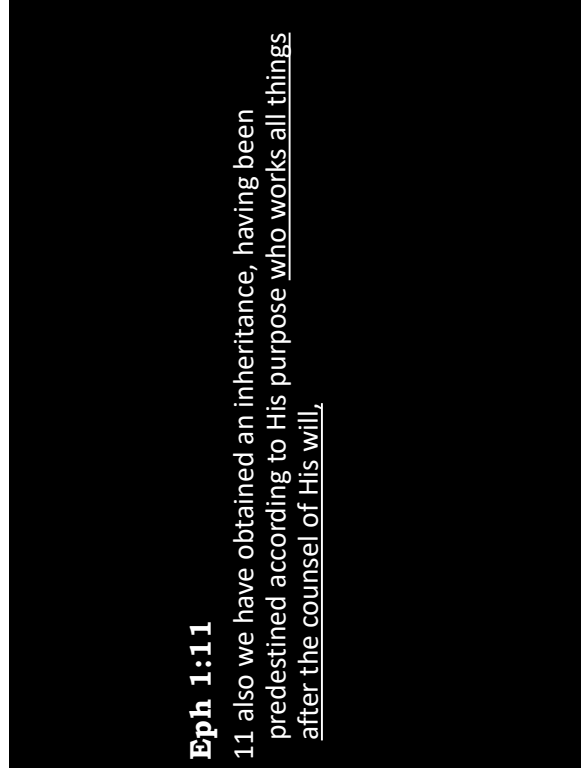
Luke 2:30-35

August 29, 2021

Luke 2:25-29

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;

"I fear no sin, I dread no death;
I have lived long enough, I have my life;
I have longed enough, I have my love;
I have seen long enough, I have my light;
I have served enough, I have my saint;
I have sorrowed enough, I have my joy;
Sweet babe, let this psalm serve as a lullaby to thee, and for a funeral for me. Oh, sleep in my arms, and let me sleep in thy peace."



Luke 2:30-35

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."

30 For my eyes have seen Your salvation,

- No one else saw salvation in this baby, except Mary, Joseph, Simeon, and next week, Anna.
- Why? Because it takes God to reveal salvation to a person.
- Simeon is looking at Jesus. Simeon is looking at salvation. Conclusion: Jesus is salvation.

Acts 4:12

12 "And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved."

- Salvation is a Person.
- Salvation is not something you do, it is someone you know.
- Its not how much you do = accumulating stuff you have done.
- Its rather, "do you have Him, the whole person?"
- You either have Him, or you don't have Him. You either trust Him, or you don't trust Him.

1 John 5:11-12

11 And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.

12 He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

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

- God has been preparing salvation even before the foundation of the world.
- He has done this "in the presence of all peoples."
"have prepared" – past tense. God has been doing it for a long time.
- Look at the O.T., all of which prepare us for the Messiah – The Law, the Covenants, the entire sacrificial system, the Feasts, the prophecies, the types, the symbols, all pointed to Christ.
- "all peoples" – Jew and Gentile. This is a seismic shift beginning in the gospels.
- Now look at the next verse . . .

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

- Jesus is the light not just to the Jew, but to the Gentiles as well.
- The Gentiles were always included in the promise to Abraham and that he would be a blessing to the nations.

Gen 12:2-3

- 2 And I will make you a great nation,
- And I will bless you,
- And make your name great;
- And so you shall be a blessing;
- 3 And I will bless those who bless you,
- And the one who curses you I will curse.
- And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."
- Jesus came to them all – "red and yellow black, and white they are precious in His sight."
- Jesus reached out to everyone, Samaritans, Romans, Phoenicians.

Rev 5:9

- 9 And they sang a new song, saying,
"Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.
- God, by sending his Son to the earth, was not only fulfilling his promises to Israel, but He was also bringing to the world a Savior for all people everywhere.

Luke 2:30-35

- 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."

Luke 2:30-35

- 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."

Isa 42:6

- 6 "I am the Lord, I have called You in righteousness, I will also hold You by the hand and watch over You, And I will appoint You as a covenant to the people, As a light to the nations,
- Isa 49:6
6 He says, "It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant

To raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel;

I will also make You a light of the nations

So that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Isa 51:4

4 "Pay attention to Me, O My people,
And give ear to Me, O My nation;
For a law will go forth from Me,
And I will set My justice for a **light of the peoples**.

Isa 52:10

10 The Lord has bared His holy arm
In the sight of **all the nations**,
That all the ends of the earth may see
The salvation of our God.

Isa 59:21

3 "**Nations will come to your light**,
And kings to the brightness of your rising.

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

Isa 45:25

25 "In the Lord all the offspring of Israel
Will be justified and will glory."

"**glory**" – to celebrate and praise God's goodness toward Israel.

Rev 7:4-9

4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:
5 from the tribe of Judah, twelve thousand were sealed, from the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand, from the tribe of Gad twelve thousand,
6 from the tribe of Asher twelve thousand, from the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand, from the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand,
7 from the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand, from the tribe of Levi twelve thousand, from the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand,
8 from the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand, from the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand, from the tribe of Benjamin, twelve thousand were sealed.
9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands;

Luke 2:30-35

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."

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

"**amazed**" – θαυμάζω – to wonder, marvel, be astonished, stunned, admire.

- Mary and Joseph were absolutely blown away by what was happening – a total stranger comes up to them out of the blue and speaks words about their baby, the Savior, and how their baby will be a blessing not only to Israel but to the whole world.

- "No matter how well you know Jesus, there is something special about seeing someone else come to know Him."

Luke 2:30-35

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."

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 —

Simeon does 4 things here:

1. He blesses both Joseph and Mary. He pronounces that all of God's goodness, and richness may be upon them.
2. He speaks to Mary. Why? Joseph evidently will not be around for much of Jesus' life. At some point he must have died.
3. He foretells the ministry that Jesus has been sent into this world to accomplish, namely to be the stone upon which Israel will either fall or rise. It will divide the nation of Israel into the remnant and the non-remnant. He will be like a magnet to another magnet — they will either be attracted to Him or they will be repelled to Him. "Jesus is the ultimate polarizing force in the Universe!" In this world there are only two classes of people: Those who believe in Jesus Christ and those who don't. And there is no middle ground. There is no fence to sit upon.
4. He declares that Jesus will be a sign to be opposed. He will point the way of salvation. He will be held up and people will reject Him. People will be offended by Him and His message. There will be insults, mockery, abuse, hatred, vilification, plotting, physical torture, and execution.

Note: We hear the same thing today: "You are so narrow minded!"
"There are many ways to God!" "How can you be so arrogant as to think you have the truth and no other religion has the truth?" "Your path to God is so exclusive."

Luke 2:30-35

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."



Rom 9:33

33 just as it is written,

"BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE,

AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."

1 Peter 2:7-8

7 This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for those who disbelieve,

"THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED,

THIS BECAME THE VERY CORNER stone,"

8 and,

"A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE";

for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed.

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

- But this will be a difficult time for Mary.
 - Now, she is experiencing all the joys of motherhood. All of the thoughts of what her child will grow up to be as the Savior. He is perfect. How would you like to raise a perfect child? One who would be adored and loved by his mother? Would there ever be any mother who would love a child more than Mary loved Jesus? Who could possibly reject Him?
 - Mary will be hurt deeply. Her soul will be pierced.
- "sword" – ρομφαία** – a large sword used in battle. People were killed in that day with swords and not guns. This sword produced extreme pain.



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

- But this will be a difficult time for Mary.
- Now, she is experiencing all the joys of motherhood. All of the thoughts of what her child will grow up to be as the Savior. He is perfect. How would you like to raise a perfect child? One who would be adored and loved by his mother? Would there ever be any mother who would love a child more than Mary loved Jesus? Who could possibly reject Him?
- Mary will be hurt deeply. Her soul will be pierced.
- "sword" – **πομφύλιον** – a large sword used in battle. People were killed in that day with swords and not guns. This sword produced extreme pain.
- How it must have hurt Mary to see her nation reject her Son.
- When her son is hanging on the cross, she would feel the total pain and anguish of that sword that was rammed through her.

Matt 15:19

19 "For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.

"Christ's death revealed the thoughts of many hearts. It revealed the thoughts in the heart of Pilate, that he loved popularity better than the truth. It revealed the thought of the heart of Judas, that he loved gold better than he loved his Master. It revealed the thought in the heart of Caiaphas, that he would keep to old customs rather than to the right. Christ and his cross are the revealers of the thoughts of men's hearts. Men's hearts can conceal their thoughts until Christ's cross comes near; then the old enmity rises up, the heart rebels, and we see what is really in men's hearts.

- Spurgeon

What's in your heart?