

December 27, 2015

## Christmas Revelations – Simeon

Luke 2:22-35  
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Vol. 5 Num. 52

### Using This Study

#### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

#### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

#### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week is the last of the proclamations about Christ that we will be covering. The Savior is born and those that have been looking for the restoration of the nation are rejoicing. Simeon tells us about how the Savior will reveal the hearts of people. Jesus comes and each person will have to decide how they are going to respond to the revelation. All are given the opportunity to accept Him, and the hope and life that He offers, but not all will. Thus, Jesus will reveal our hearts through the salvation that He offers that only comes through Him.

**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 2:30-32

## **EXAMINE His Word (Observation)**

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in these passages.

### **Read Luke 2:22-35 (NET)**

<sup>22</sup> Now when the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Joseph and Mary brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup> (just as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male will be set apart to the Lord”), <sup>24</sup> and to offer a sacrifice according to what is specified in the law of the Lord, a pair of doves or two young pigeons.

<sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon who was righteous and devout, looking for the restoration of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. <sup>27</sup> So Simeon, directed by the Spirit, came into the temple courts, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary according to the law,

<sup>28</sup> Simeon took him in his arms and blessed God, saying,

<sup>29</sup> *“Now, according to your word, Sovereign Lord, permit your servant to depart in peace.*

<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> So the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, *“Listen carefully: This child is destined to be the cause of the falling and rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that will be rejected. <sup>35</sup> Indeed, as a result of him the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul as well!”*

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.

2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.

3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.

4. Is there anything repeated?

5. What is emphasized?

6. What is in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?

7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

## **② EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation)**

What does God MEAN?

8. How did Simeon know Jesus was the Messiah?

9. In verse 29, what does it mean when Simeon says, "Permit your servant to depart in peace"?

10. How is Jesus a revelation to the Gentiles?

11. What is meant by Jesus being “the cause of the falling and rising of many in Israel? Why will some fall and some rise because of Him?

### ③ **EMBRACE His Word (Application)**

**Why does this MATTER to me?**

12. Jesus is the cause of many hearts being revealed. What does the presence of Jesus reveal about your heart?

13. Simeon tells Mary that Jesus will be a divisive figure; some will fall, some will rise, some will reject Him, while others are saved. Our hearts are revealed by the presence of Christ. How do we see that happening in today’s world?

14. Knowing that Jesus will cause division with some, how do we handle it today? How does it affect your relationships at work and in the community?

**Summarize your thoughts on the passage:**

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

**SERMON NOTES**