

## WALK THE TALK //



This page is designed for you to apply what you have learned from the Scriptures. Our goal is not just “to know” but to “act upon what we know.” (*His Word, Our Walk!*)

We encourage you to discuss the following questions with family, friends and your LIFEgroup. Although you can review it on your own, it will be most useful to you when processed with others!

1. The man Simeon is impressive in many ways. What do you like about him?
  
2. Why did Simeon want to be “released” from life?
  
3. What did you learn about Israel, the Gentiles and salvation?
  
4. Why did Simeon speak the prophecies specifically to Mary? What are your thoughts on this?
  
5. What part of the four-part prophecy is most interesting to you and why?

### YOUR THOUGHTS ON SIMEON'S WORDS?



December 10 & 11, 2016 | Remember When #3 | Luke 2:29-35 | Dennis Miller, pastor

### TWO LESSONS FOR THIS SERIES:

1. The people in the Christmas story are marked by WISDOM and OBEDIENCE, which is what makes this account so powerful and effective.
2. One of the best ways to celebrate Christmas is to “remember when” Jesus was born into your HEART, and then to LIVE in obedience.

### SIMEON — THE SECOND WITNESS

1. When Jesus was taken to the Temple to be dedicated, an OLDER man named Simeon met Mary and Joseph and TOOK the child into his arms.
2. Simeon was RIGHTEOUS (to believe rightly) and DEVOUT (to live rightly) and was waiting for the CONSOLATION (παράκλησις paraklēsis) of Israel.

Luke 2:25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, . . .

3. Simeon was a UNIQUE individual because of his relationship with the HOLY SPIRIT.

Luke 2:25 . . . 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.

## SIMEON'S GENERAL WORDS

Luke 2:28 Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: 29 "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. 30 For my eyes have seen your salvation, 31 which you have prepared in the sight of all people, 32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

1. Simeon thanked God for keeping His PROMISE and said that he could now be "RELEASED" from life on this earth.
2. He declared that his eyes had seen "your SALVATION" (the Messiah) and that he was SATISFIED.
3. He knew that this salvation was for "ALL PEOPLE"

— A light for the GENTILES.

Is. 9:2 *The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.*

Is. 49:6 . . . *I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.*"

Matt. 4:13 Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali— 14 to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah: . . . 16 the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned."

— Glory for your people ISRAEL.

Is. 60:1 *"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.*

Is. 60:19 . . . *for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.*

John 12:46 *I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness.*

God CHOSE Israel to be His people, not to be the END of salvation, but the MEANS of salvation.

## SIMEON'S SPECIFIC WORDS

Luke 2:33 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."

1. The angel had TOLD Mary and Joseph these things, but they were very SURPRISED that someone else knew the IDENTITY of their child.
2. Simeon then BLESSED Mary and Joseph but shared the rest of his prophecy ONLY to Mary. Why?

Luke 2:48 When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

3. Simeon's FOUR-part prophecy:

a. DIVISION — This child would cause the FALLING and RISING of many in Israel.

Is. 8:14 *He will be a holy place; for both Israel and Judah he will be a stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall. And for the people of Jerusalem he will be a trap and a snare.*

Is. 28:16 *So this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed.*

Luke 20:18 *Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.*"

b. DERISION — This child would be a sign that will be spoken AGAINST.

Is. 7:14 *Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.*

Luke 8:53 *They laughed at him, knowing that she was dead.*

Luke 22:65 *And they said many other insulting things to him.*

Luke 23:39 *One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: . . .*

c. DISCLOSURE — This child would REVEAL the thoughts of many hearts. The word "thoughts" (διαλογισμός dialogismos), which means "BELIEFS," is always negative.

Luke 5:22 Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, "Why are you thinking these things in your hearts?"

Luke 6:8 But Jesus knew what they were thinking and said to the man with the shriveled hand, "Get up and stand in front of everyone." So he got up and stood there.

d. DISTRESS — This child would cause a sword to pierce your own soul TOO, Mary.

— The word "sword" indicates SORROW.

— The word "soul" indicates it is EMOTIONAL sorrow.

— The word "TOO" means that Jesus' heart would be broken ALSO.

Luke 19:41 As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it 42 and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes.

Luke 22:42 Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." . . . 44 And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.