



## Where are you Focusing Your Hope? [Luke 2:25-40]

*But as for me, I watch in hope for the Lord, I wait for  
God my Savior; my God will hear me. Micah 7:7*

### I. Simeon's Hope Revealed [Luke 2:25-35]

- A. Meet Simeon [25-26]
- B. Blessing: Simeon's Hymn of Praise [27-32]
- C. Joseph and Mary's Response - Marveled [33]
- D. Prophecy: Israel's Divided Response to Jesus [34-35]

### II. Anna's Hope Realized [Luke 2:36-38]

- A. Meet Anna [36-37]
- B. Anna's Thankfulness for the Arrival of Jesus [38a]
- C. Anna's Awareness of Jesus as Messiah [38b]

### III. Our Hope Realized [Luke 2:39-40]

- A. The Family Heads Back to Nazareth [39]
- B. Jesus Grows Up and the Father's Favor is  
Upon Him [40]

*Therefore, since we have been justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
2 Through Him we have also obtained access by  
faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice  
in hope of the glory of God. [Roman 5:1-2]*

**Luke 2:25-38** Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous [Luke 1:6] and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. [Mark 15:43; Luke 23:50f; Isaiah 25:9, 40:1; Psalm 25:5, 119:66, 173, Micah 7:7; Acts 28:20] <sup>26</sup> 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 9:20] <sup>27</sup> 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, <sup>28</sup> he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup> "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, [Genesis 5:15] according to your word; [Luke 2:26]

<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation [Isaiah 52:10; Luke 3:6]

<sup>31</sup> that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, [Psalm 98:2; Luke 24:47]

<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles, [Isaiah 42:6, 49:6, 60:3; John 8:12; Acts 13:47, 26:23] and for glory to your people Israel."  
[Psalm 98:2; Luke 24:47, 2:10]

<sup>33</sup> And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, [Isaiah 8:14; John 9:39, 1 Corinthians 1:23f] and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup> (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

<sup>36</sup> And there was a prophetess, [Exodus 15:20] 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, <sup>37</sup> and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. [she was over 103 years old] She did not depart from the temple, worshipping [1 Timothy 5:5] with fasting and prayer night and day. [Matthew 6:16-18] <sup>38</sup> 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. [Luke 2:25, 1:68]

<sup>39</sup> And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, [Exodus 13:9, 2 Chronicles 31:3; Luke 2:23] they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon Him. [Luke 2:52; 1 Peter 1:10-12]

### Study Questions/Prayer

- [1] Read Luke 2:25-35. How does Simeon's encounter with Jesus demonstrate the fulfillment of his hope and the role of the Holy Spirit in revealing God's promises?
- [2] Read Luke 2:36-38. In what ways does Anna's devotion and thankfulness serve as a model for our spiritual discipline and attitudes toward God's promises?
- [3] Reread Luke 2:34-35. What does the prophecy about Jesus causing the fall and rising of many in Israel reveal about the impact of Jesus' ministry and the varied responses to Him?
- [4] Pray for the Holy Spirit to empower us to live in righteousness, as we share the good news of Jesus, and strive to be a light to those around us throughout Advent.