

SERMON OUTLINE Luke 2:22-38

Song of Simeon – A Hope Worth the Wait

Waiting...

A Presentation to the Lord in the Temple (Luke 2:22-24)

A Promise Made Is Fulfilled (Luke 2:25-35)

Light for revelation to Gentiles and glory to Israel (Luke 2:32)

Another character in the story

Waiting on the Lord is doing eternal things

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

The Main Point is that this passage teaches us that faithful, obedient waiting is not wasted time but holy ground. God forms His people and fulfills His promises in the long, quiet spaces of patience. At Christmas we remember that God always keeps His word in His time, and the arrival of Jesus is the proof that our waiting in hope is never in vain. The main takeaway therefore is to become a people who wait well, anchored in God's promises, obedient to His Word, and attentive to His Spirit, so that our worship, witness, and hope shine brightly in a hurried and impatient world.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What part of Simeon's story stood out to you most, and why?
2. How does Simeon challenge our modern struggles with waiting and impatience?
3. What do you think sustained Simeon's hope through decades of spiritual "silence" in Israel?
4. In what ways does the "offering of the poor" shape our understanding of the humility of Jesus' entrance into the world?
5. Why do you think Luke emphasizes the role of the Holy Spirit in Simeon's life?
6. How does Simeon's prophecy reveal both the beauty and the cost of Christ's mission?
7. In what ways do Anna and Simeon together paint a picture of faithful, hope-filled worship?
8. How does Simeon's readiness to die ("You can now dismiss your servant in peace...") challenge the way we think about fulfillment, purpose, and satisfaction in life?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

11. What are you currently "waiting on the Lord" for, and how are you responding in the waiting?
12. Where do you tend to struggle most with impatience—in circumstances, relationships, or spiritual growth?
13. How does your daily obedience to God's Word compare with the steadfast obedience of Mary and Joseph?
14. What promises of God are hardest for you to trust right now?
15. What spiritual practices could help you cultivate the faithfulness and attentiveness Simeon demonstrated?
16. Are there areas where you know God is calling you to obey (baptism, evangelism, discipleship, community), but you've been delaying?
17. What needs to change in your life for Christ—not nostalgia, gifts, or busyness—to truly be at the center of your Christmas celebration?

PRAYER POINTS

1. Adoration. Praise God for His faithfulness to His promises. Praise Jesus for being the Light and for the humility of His entrance into the world—born under the Law to redeem those under the Law. Praise the Holy Spirit for sustaining our faith and giving us strength.
2. Confess. Confess allowing Christmas busyness, nostalgia, or self-focus to push Christ from the center of your heart. Confess impatience, demand for immediate comfort, and reluctance to wait on the LORD.
3. Thanksgiving. Thank God for sending His Son at the fullness of time, just as He promised. Thank Him for the examples of Mary, Joseph, Simeon, and Anna—people who waited faithfully and worshiped wholeheartedly.
4. Supplication. Ask the LORD to help obey His Word with the clarity and consistency of Mary and Joseph, to trust His promises like Simeon and Anna. Ask for the strength to wait on the LORD's timing with peace rather than anxiety or frustration.