

Christmas
2018 AM

December 23,

JESUS' IDENTIFICATION BY SIMEON (Luke 2:25-35)

- I. God's PREPARATION of Simeon (Luke 2:25)
 - A. His CHARACTER
 - 1. He was a RIGHTEOUS man
 - 2. He was a DEVOUT man
 - B. His FOCUS: He was looking for the CONSOLATION of Israel (cf. John 14:16)
 - C. His MOTIVATION: The HOLY SPIRIT was upon him

- II. God's PROMISE to Simeon (Luke 2:26)
 - A. The SOURCE: It was revealed through the HOLY SPIRIT
 - B. The SUBSTANCE: He would LIVE TO SEE the Lord's Christ

- III. God's PROVIDENCE for Simeon (Luke 2:27-28)
 - A. He was in the TEMPLE under the direction of the SPIRIT

- B. Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to be DEDICATED
- C. Simeon took the baby Jesus into HIS ARMS

IV. God's PRONOUNCEMENT through Simeon (Luke 2:29-32)

- A. He PRAISED God that he could now DIE in PEACE (2:29)
 - 1. God's PROMISE had been fulfilled
 - 2. Simeon's PURPOSE had been accomplished
- B. He PROCLAIMED the identity of this child (2:30-31)
 - 1. He identified Him as God's "SALVATION"
 - 2. He affirmed Jesus' having been SENT by God "in the presence of ALL PEOPLES"
- C. He DECLARED Jesus is "a LIGHT" (2:32-33; cf. John 1:4-9; 8:12)
 - 1. He is the Light of REVELATION to the GENTILES
 - 2. He is the Light of GLORY of Israel
- D. He PREPARED Mary for a HARD future (2:34-35)
 - 1. Through Him many in Israel would "FALL and RISE"
 - 2. He would be a SIGN that would be OPPOSED
 - 3. A SWORD would pierce Mary's own SOUL
 - 4. Jesus would bring DIVISION that would reveal every person's STATUS before God