



christmas at life church

Mary, Did You Know?



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Simeon did!

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Luke 2.25-32

Now there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon, who was *righteous AND devout*. He was waiting for the *Comforter of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him*. The Holy Spirit had *revealed to him* that he would not see death before he had *seen* the Lord's

Luke 2.25-32

Christ. Led by the Spirit he went into the temple courts. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him what was customary under the law, Simeon took Him in his arms and praised God saying: “Sovereign Lord, as You have

Luke 2.25-32

promised, You now dismiss Your servant in peace; *For my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel.”*

–Lexicon

Simeon saw because...

- Because they that wait on the Lord will not be ashamed! **Isaiah 49.23**
 - “Wait for the Lord, AND keep His way, and He will exalt you to inherit the land (promise): when the wicked are cut off, you will *see it*.” **Psalms 37.34**
 - “Those who hunger and thirst are filled; those who seek, find!” **Matthew 5.6 Luke 11.9,10**

Simeon saw because...

- He believed *the Holy Spirit authored promise* that he would not die until he saw the Messiah! **[2Tim 3.16]**
 - “This is what overcomes the world, even our faith!” **1John 5.4**
 - Believing without wavering, he could expect to receive it! **James 1.6,7**
- *“Didn’t see Him today, so I’m going to be around for another day!”*

Simeon saw because...

- *He was in the right place/right time!*
 - He was ‘in the temple,’ a spiritual place, the *right place* to find the Savior of the world...
 - He was led at the *right time* to a “customary” dedication...
 - On a Guided tour; “And this is what you are seeing here, friend!” **John 16**

Asides...

- **Can anyone truly believe that what God did for Simeon of the Old Covenant, He would not do for someone with the NEW COVENANT?**
- **Then, the Holy Spirit dropped onto people, now He dwells in us!**
- **Expect to see what others don't, yet!**

**From Simeon who saw...
to “Nameless Guy...”
who didn’t see
anything!**

Luke 2.1-7

“And it came to pass, that there went out a decree that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed in their own city. And Joseph went up from Nazareth, to the city of David, which is Bethlehem, to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, *being great*

Luke 2.1-7

with child. And so it was, that while they were there, it was time for her to deliver. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.”

**That “Nameless Guy...”
was the owner of the
Starlight Motel!**

“Nameless Guy...”

- **Too busy making money to see!**
 - “Striking iron while it’s hot...”
 - “Making hay while the sun is shining...”
 - “Head down, ears back...” not the posture to see the supernatural!
 - Saying ‘yes’ to every opportunity to get ahead, he lost a shot at true greatness!
- ***What a friend he might have had!***

We are...

- “in the world (as lights) but not of it...” **John 17.14 1John 2.15,16**
- “Those who ‘will’ to be rich... pierce themselves through with many sorrows...” **1Timothy 6.6-10**
- “Rich (in/by) toward God... making friends for ourselves in eternity with our money!” **Luke 12.21 16.9**

“Nameless Guy...”

- “*estranged*” to faith, without hope without God! **Ephesians 2.12**
 - 400 yrs. since God had spoken, still the ‘same old same old!’
 - No expectation of coming deliverance!
 - Seeing the “facts of life” without faith!
 - “Delays discourage the weak!”
 - “Just more imminent” for faithful!

We are...

- “beloved... and not ignorant of God’s timing... the Lord is not slack concerning His promise... He is longsuffering toward mankind, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance!”

2Peter 3.9

We are...

- “those who know the time; that it is high time to awake out of sleep, for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed! The night is far spent, the day is at hand, so let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light... putting on the Lord Jesus!” **Romans 13.11-14**

“Nameless Guy...”

- Couldn't see the people standing right there in front of him!
 - Forget about *seeing* the bearer of the King of the World...
 - What about simple human compassion for people in obvious need?
 - Too “full,” too busy, too tired, too self-focused, too caught up, to take a real look!

We are...

- “Those who have two simple/great commandments to fulfill... to love God and love the people He loves!”
Matthew 22.34ff Luke 10.25ff
 - “So, let us love one another, for love is of God... and he that loves not, knows not God for God is love... If we love one another, God lives in us and His love is perfected in us!” **1John 4.7-12**

We are...

- “Those who have two simple/great commandments to fulfill... to love God and love the people He loves!”
Matthew 22.34ff Luke 10.25ff
 - “We have known and believed the love that God has for us... and he that lives in love, lives in God and God in him... If a man says, ‘I love God’ and hates his brother, he is a liar...” **1John 4.16-20**

**“And this is the
commandment we have
from Him: That he who loves
God, loves his brother also!”**

1John 4.21

**So, let's be Simeon...
not "Nameless Guy..."**