



CAPITOL COMMISSION®

Simeon—The Seventh Witness that Jesus is The Messiah!

MAY 6-7, 2026

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Luke 2:25-35 *And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26) 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. 27) So he came by 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, 28) he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said: 29) "Lord, now you are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; 30) For my eyes have seen Your salvation 31) Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, 32) A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel." 33) And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him. 34) Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against 35) (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."* (NKJV)

ARISE, SHINE; FOR YOUR LIGHT HAS COME! AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD IS RISEN UPON YOU. FOR BEHOLD, THE DARKNESS SHALL COVER THE EARTH, AND DEEP DARKNESS THE PEOPLE; BUT THE LORD WILL ARISE OVER YOU, AND HIS GLORY WILL BE SEEN UPON YOU. THE GENTILES SHALL COME TO YOUR LIGHT, AND KINGS TO THE BRIGHTNESS OF YOUR RISING.

ISAIAH 60:1-3

Why the "behold" regarding this man in Jerusalem, the capital? What is he waiting for? Did the Holy Spirit come upon him for this task or was His presence continual? Was he convinced that he would see his Messiah? What was the primary

emphasis of his words and the delight of his heart? Had anyone previously spoken of the universal scope of salvation? Was this dawning of a new light to change world history? Did Israel again experience their Shekinah Glory? Will everyone's "fall" or "rise" in destiny be by to what they do with Jesus? Is this the first time Mary is told of the suffering to come?

FOCUS ON FUTURE BIBLE STUDIES:

- MAY 13-14: LUKE 2:36-40 **GIVING THANKS FOR THE GREATEST GIFT!**
- MAY 20-21: LUKE 2:41-52 **JESUS' OWN WITNESS THAT HE IS THE MESSIAH!**

In answer to their prayers, Zacharias and Elizabeth become the first witnesses to the coming Messiah. When Mary arrives with the Messiah in her womb, Elizabeth's baby, John the Baptist, leaps in her womb for joy and Elizabeth, filled with the Spirit, becomes the first human witness after the angel, Gabriel. She says to Mary, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Luke 1:42-43). Then Mary speaks of Jesus in her womb saying, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior" (1:46-47). Zacharias, having fulfilled all Gabriel said to him, proclaims regarding his own son, "And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Highest; for you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways, to give knowledge of salvation to His people by the remission of their sins, through the tender mercy of our God, with which the Dayspring from on high has visited us" (1:76-78). Joseph takes Mary as his wife though her child is not his, as a witness of the Messiah in her womb (Matt. 1:18-25). The innumerable host of angels and shepherds are included as one event.

"I HAVE WAITED FOR YOUR SALVATION, O LORD!"
GENESIS 49:18

BIBLE STUDIES

WEDNESDAY @ 8:30 AM –FREDERICKSBURG – PARADISE DINER – 260 WARRENTON RD

THURSDAY @ 8:00 AM –RICHMOND – SHONEY'S, HULL & COURTHOUSE & NOON – LYNCHBURG – PANERA BREAD, 3901 OLD FOREST RD.

Virginia

Simeon—The Seventh Witness that Jesus is The Messiah!

I. THE PERSONAL WITNESS

LUKE 2:25-30

Luke begins our passage with “*behold*,” thus including the supernatural. Continually dwelling in Jerusalem, the man Simeon constantly looked for the coming Messiah, “*the Consolation of Israel*.” Though in Old Testament times the Holy Spirit usually came upon individuals temporarily for certain tasks, Simeon experiences the Holy Spirit continually “*upon him*.” Not only was he “*just and devout*,” he would have been distinguished in his leadership because others would have constantly seen the fruit of the Spirit in him (Galatians 5:22). One immense benefit of the presence of the Holy Spirit was the constant awareness of the coming of Christ, so that he expected His coming at any moment, and was especially convinced that he would see his Messiah in his lifetime. Such an assurance would have brought him to the Temple regularly to see the newborns being dedicated to the Lord. This particular day he may have planned other errands, but the Holy Spirit urged him to the Temple so that as Joseph and Mary brought in Jesus, they met. And Simeon, led by the Spirit suddenly grabbed baby Jesus, and taking Him in his arms “*blessed God*.” “*Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel*.” Simeon was now ready to die, because he saw salvation in Jesus Christ, received and believed in Him as his Savior!

of Christ, the Messiah, so that this salvation was made available to “*all peoples*.” There would be individuals from every tongue and tribe and nation who would become witnesses of His salvation. Specifically, Jesus was “*a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles*.” Just as was prophesied, “*I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, as a light to the Gentiles, to open blind eyes, to bring prisoners from the prison, those who sit in darkness from the prison house*” (Isaiah 42:6-7). Isaiah goes on to relate how the idolatry would be replaced by peoples singing a new song to the Lord. This also certainly includes the Jews because Jesus will especially be “*the glory of Your people Israel*.”

I WILL ALSO GIVE YOU AS A LIGHT TO THE GENTILES, THAT YOU SHOULD BE MY SALVATION TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH ... KINGS SHALL SEE AND ARISE, PRINCES ALSO SHALL WORSHIP. ISAIAH 49:6-7

III. THE PARENT’S WITNESS

LUKE 2:33-35

Joseph and Mary marveled, probably at the delight of one who so longed to see Jesus, matching Israel, (Jacob), to see his son Joseph (Genesis 46:29-30). They would have marveled even more to hear that the salvation Jesus would bring was not only for the Jews, but unusually, the Gentiles were listed first! This word for “*glory*” was used of the Shekinah Glory that revealed God’s presence with His people. Simeon then blessed the couple and turned to Mary to reveal that Jesus would determine eternal destinies. “*Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel*.” Though they might outwardly conform to the Law, if they did not receive their Messiah and the salvation He offered, they would fall forever, yet the word “*rising*” is used of the resurrection. Simeon for the first time, spoke of the pain Jesus and thus Mary would endure. He would be a “*sign spoken against*,” pointing to rejection. “*Yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also*” speaking of His crucifixion, “*that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed*” all must decide.

“IN GALILEE OF THE GENTILES. THE PEOPLE WHO WALKED IN DARKNESS HAVE SEEN A GREAT LIGHT; THOSE WHO DWELT IN THE LAND OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH, UPON THEM A LIGHT HAS SHINED.” ISAIAH 9:1-2

II. THE PEOPLE’S WITNESS

LUKE 2:31-32

Simeon had made it clear that this Jesus which he held in his arms was not just for his own salvation, but that He included the entire world. God had planned the coming

Questions to Ponder:

- 1) Have the many witnesses provided convinced you that Jesus is the Messiah?
- 2) Have you seen Jesus Christ as the only means of salvation by His death on the cross for your sin?
- 3) All destinies are determined by being for or against Jesus Christ, are you now serving Him as your Lord and Savior?