



Getting to Know Simeon & Anna *This Christmas*

Discover the Joy of Seeing the Messiah

The Setting: Hope in the Waiting

When we open the Gospel of Luke, we step into the quiet years of Jesus' early life — a story told with care and detail by Luke, the physician. His writings, shaped by careful research and likely conversations with Mary, invite us into sacred moments where divine promises are fulfilled. As we meet Simeon and Anna, two faithful servants in the temple, we discover what it means to wait well and recognize God's faithfulness when it finally appears.

Simeon: Eyes That Saw Salvation

"For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations." — Luke 2:30-31

Simeon was described as righteous and devout, a man moved by the Holy Spirit who longed for the consolation of Israel — the comfort and redemption only the Messiah could bring. When Simeon finally saw baby Jesus, he knew at once: this was the One. His words remind us that salvation isn't limited to one people but extends to all nations, Jew and Gentile alike — a revolutionary truth that still transforms lives today.

Reflect:

- How does Simeon's faith challenge you to trust God's timing?
- What might it look like for your eyes to "see salvation" this Christmas?

Anna: A Life of Worship

"She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying." — Luke 2:37

Anna, a prophetess from the tribe of Asher, spent decades — possibly over a century — faithfully serving in the temple. When she saw Jesus, she immediately gave thanks and proclaimed the good news to all who were waiting for redemption. Her story reminds us that no moment of devotion is wasted. God honors those who keep watch in faith and prayer.

Reflect:

- What does Anna's persistence in prayer teach you about worship?
- How can you share the good news of Jesus this Christmas as Anna did?

A Sign Spoken Against

Simeon also prophesied that Jesus would be *"a sign that will be spoken against"* — Luke 2:34

Even as Mary and Joseph marveled at the words, Simeon warned that Jesus would reveal hearts — dividing belief from unbelief.

He foretold the sword that would pierce Mary's soul, fulfilled when she watched her Son on the cross.

Reflect:

- How do we see people rising and falling because of Jesus today?
- What would it have felt like to hear Simeon's prophecy as Mary?

A Christmas Challenge

Simeon and Anna remind us that Christmas is about more than celebration — it's about recognition.

They recognized Jesus for who He truly was, even as a child.

This season, let's slow down, listen to the Spirit, and ask God to open our eyes anew to His presence.

Key Takeaway:

True faith waits, watches, and rejoices when it finally sees the Savior.