

Simple Pursuit

Luke 2:22-35

Sermon Series Summary

SIMPLE - Easily understood, plain, basic, or uncomplicated in nature. Over the years Christmas has become synonymous with shopping, over indulging, competition, and stress. But according to the original Christmas story that was never God's intention. As we travel back in time to the birth of Jesus we realize that Christmas is simple and the arrival of the King of Kings brings several simple gifts that come with the arrival of the Prince of Peace. The gifts we treasure this Christmas are Simple... (1) Simple Hope, (2) Simple Love, (3) Simple Peace, and (4) Simple Joy. May you be inspired this Christmas to make this

Main Passage

Luke 2:22-35 (ESV) –²² And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous 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 And he came in 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 that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.” ³³ And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵ (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

Big Idea – Never Stop Pursuing the Lord for He is the Author of Your Blessings

Three Truths About Simeon’s Simple Pursuit

Truth #1 – God’s Preparation for Your Pursuit – His Plan for Your Life is Already in Motion

Luke 2:22-24 (ESV) –²² And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.”

Truth #2 – Spend Your Life Pursuing God’s Plan and You Will Always Be Ready

Luke 2:25-32 (ESV) –²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous 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 And he came in 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 that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

Truth #3 – Pursuing God's Plan Always Brings His Blessing

Luke 2:33-35 (ESV) – ³³ And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵ (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

Memory Verse

Jeremiah 33:3 (ESV) – Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.

Challenge

You are called to consistently apply the divine principles and truths found in the Word of God. Take the next step in your study by (1) Discussing and applying the sermon with your small group, (2) Participating in a Sunday School class, or (3) Study through the devotional guide found at the Welcome Center.