




2009 Is Gone By Design, But There's A New Year Again In 2010

Luke 2:25-38

12-27-09




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 **Lk 2:25-38(NASB95)**²⁵ And there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law, ²⁸then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said,




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 ²⁹“Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, According to Your word; ³⁰For my eyes have seen Your salvation, ³¹Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²A Light of revelation to the Gentiles, And the glory of Your people Israel.” ³³And His father and mother were amazed at the things which were being said about Him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, “Behold, this Child is appointed for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and for a sign to be opposed— ³⁵and a sword will pierce even your own soul—to the end that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”



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 ³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years and had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷and then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple, serving night and day with fastings and prayers. ³⁸At that very moment she came up and began giving thanks to God, and continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.



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- I. There Are Seasons Where We Wait & Things Seem To Go From Bad To Worse Or Nothing Seems To Be Happening At All**
 - A. Consider Simeon's perspective
 - B. Consider Anna's perspective
 - C. What has 2009 been like for you?



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II. There Are Seasons Where We See Things Happen Quickly That Result In Significant Change

- A. What were the results of how Simeon was living life?
 1. He was righteous and devout
 2. He was wanting what was good for others (the consolation of Israel)
 3. The Holy Spirit was upon him – he was led by the Holy Spirit



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4. He blessed God
5. His obedience brought him to a place of peace
6. Simeon saw what was to come:
 - ❖ Simeon saw the salvation of the Lord
 - ❖ He knew that Christ was to be a revelation of light for the Gentiles
 - ❖ He knew that this Christ would reveal and unveil the hearts of all humanity. He was filled with hope for the future!



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B. What did Anna see coming?

1. She saw the redemption of her people coming; she saw the Christ – the Comforter of Israel
2. Through her prophetic eyes, she could see the dynamic change that was coming that would change everything! She was filled with hope for the future!



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C. What about you?

1. What do you see coming in 2010? What do you pray will come in 2010? What is your vision for 2010?
2. What do you have faith for in 2010? What do you need prayer for in 2010?
3. What are you going to do different in 2010?
4. What are small steps of faith you can take now to cooperate with God in 2010?



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“When the prayer made in faith is not answered, and the healing for which many have sought does not come, we are not to look for someone to accuse of failure in faith. Rather we are to remember that besides faith there is hope. Hope has to do with God's promises that are still future and hidden, just as faith has to do with God's promises that are here and now. To the person who has believed for today but has not seen the answer come today, there comes the call to hope. Hope says, "Tomorrow also is God's. Enough has happened already to assure you that the rest is on the way.” -*Thomas Smail*