

Scripture: Luke 2:21-38

Singing: 447:1, 3 – 163:1-3 – 111:1-3 – 73:1, 5-6

The Church shall survive the world,
and be in bliss when the world is in ruins. (M. Henry)

SIMEON'S CELEBRATION AT CHRIST'S BIRTH (1)

I. Simeon's portrait of piety II. Simeon's praises about God's provision
III. Simeon's prophecy about Christ's purpose

I. Simeon's portrait of piety

A. Simeon was a real Christian in a very unchristian world (vs. 25)

1. How did he become a believer in Christ? Romans 10:17

2. How do we know a man is saved? (vs. 25)

B. What are the particulars of Simeon's portrait of piety or godliness?

1. He was a man in *whom you saw reflection* of the **Spirit of Jesus Christ**

2. He was a *just or righteous man* (compare Job 1:1; Luke 1:6)

a. Simeon walked blameless in God's comm & ordinances as Jesus

b. "just" is in NT connected to those *who live by faith in **God's Gospel***

3. He was a devout man

a. devout describes his *inner attitude* before God

b. knowing and believing God's love will spur our devotion to Him

c. in his devotion, Simeon felt needy for *consolation* (Zeph. 3:12)

4. He was a waiting man (vs. 25b)

C. Beside the gift of godliness, Simeon was given a rare & unique privilege in an extra-ordinary (uncommon) revelation of God: vs. 26-27

Closing Thoughts

A. Let's be encouraged: God will always have a seed to serve Him, even in darkest times and the worst of places: see Is. 44:1-5

B. Let's be instructed: Simeon waited on the Lord's Christ who is our consolation

C. Let's be reminded: Do we wait as Simeon waited for Jesus Christ? Heb. 9:28b

- 1 Thess. 1:10 *And to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come – Also Acts 3:20; 1 Cor. 1:7; 1 Thess. 3:13*

WORTHWHILE SAYINGS ON JESUS' SECOND COMING

Many people will be surprised when Jesus comes again.
But nobody will be disbelieving.

He who loves the coming of the Lord is not he who affirm it is far off,
nor is it he who says it is near.

It is he who, whether it be far or near, awaits it with sincere faith,
steadfast hope and fervent love. (Augustine)

The Christian hope about Jesus' coming is not to tickle our minds with speculation. It is for strengthening our mind with consolation.