

# God's Presence, God's Peace

## Luke 2:25-32

### What?

*Jesus brings sin's release, our fears cease, and we have peace*

#### A personal promise—

Simeon was a New Testament saint living under the Old Covenant

He was right before God, full of right conduct; he was committed to reverencing, worshipping God

The Holy Spirit enabled him, spoke to him and led him

Here is the **first time in the birth account that we see the Lord speaking to someone for their own personal benefit**

Simeon would not die before seeing the arrival of the Messiah; this promise carried an implication of peace

Again we see that **God will accomplish what He speaks** (“according to your word”)

**Certainty of faith** enabled Simeon's patient waiting

#### **The Big Question—What gave Simeon his peace?**

The source of Simeon's peace was **“the consolation of Israel”—the comforting of God's people through deliverance**

Israel's greatest problem was sin; they desperately needed Someone to deliver them, not from the Roman oppression, but from sin and the threat of eternal death

**Jesus is that consolation, the comforting hope of deliverance from sin** and even the threat of eternal death

God's people are not just the Jews, but all who will put faith in Him for deliverance from sin and death

Simeon's **peace came from the fact of God's presence** in the form of the birth of the Saviour

This salvation was a spiritual light that would reveal God and His salvation to all the nations

Simeon's taking of the baby Jesus into his arms seems to be **a symbolic act of taking the Lord's salvation to heart personally**

### So What?

First, you must take this salvation that has come in the form of Jesus, Saviour and Lord, **into your heart personally**

Jesus will be your “consolation and comfort” through all your difficulties

Simeon's example also shows us that regular people can have the fullness of God's Spirit

It results in our right standing before God and **He leads us in right conduct and devotion to reverencing and worship of God**

But also **He will speak His peace to us personally**, for our own benefit and the strengthening of our faith

At times He may seem to speak in impossible terms

But we need to remember that **what God speaks, He will accomplish, no matter how impossible**

The faith required **believes as if God has already accomplished it; this will give your heart great peace**

#### The final say—Paul

*II Thessalonians 3:16, ESV—Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with all of you*

### Now What?

What fears threaten your peace personally?

What promise of peace is the Lord speaking to you?