

## Unpacking the Preach

Date: 26th December 2021  
Sermon Title: Simeon & Anna  
Bible Passage: Luke 2: 25 - 38

### **Introduction**

Take time to read the passage from a few different translations.

- What stands out to you in this passage?
- How would you summarise the main idea?
- Have you ever had to wait for something for a long time? What was it and how long were you waiting?
- Who are the main characters in this story?

### **Recapping the Preach**

Stu began by pointing out that the story of the birth of Jesus is bookended by two stories that take place in the Temple, that involve elderly people and who have been waiting.

- Look at Zechariah & Elizabeth (1:5-25) and Simeon & Anna (2:25-38). What are the similarities and what are the differences between them?
- Read Proverb 13:12 - what do you think this proverb means?

Stu went on to talk about Simeon's - a devout and righteous man, who was waiting for the consolation of Israel.

- What do you think it means to be devout and righteous?
- What do you think the consolation of Israel means?
- Why does Simeon say the Lord can now dismiss him in peace?
- Why does Simeon tell Mary that Jesus will cause the falling and rising of many (2:34 cf 20:18)?
- What did Simeon mean that a 'sword will pierce your own soul too'?

Stu then introduced Anna who approached Joseph & Mary and gave thanks for Jesus and then spoke about the redemption of Israel.

- What does the redemption of Jerusalem mean?
- Have a look at these Bible: Ephesians 1:7, Galatians 2:20, Galatians 3:13 - how do you understand redemption from these verses?

Stu then asked the question: what can Simeon and Anna teach us about waiting well for our own consolation and redemption. He made 3 points: we need to rely on the Holy Spirit, practice the HABITs of discipleship and pursue a life of sacrifice.

- Which of these three things do you need to focus on the most?

### **Response**

- Is there anything from the preach and passage that you will be taking away to reflect on or work on?
- How can you live out the example of Simeon and Anna on your frontline this week?

### **Prayer pointers**

- Take time to share prayer requests and pray for one another.
- Pray for grace and strength to wait well.
- Spend time giving thanks to God for the gift of His Son Jesus.

**Additional resources:**

If you need some additional resources the below websites are useful:

- <https://www.gotquestions.org>
- <https://enduringword.com>
- <https://www.biblica.com>
- <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/>