

Date: December 15, 2019

Sermon Series: Christmas

Sermon Title: Prophet and Prophetess

Passage: Luke 2:25-38

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Sermon uses ideas and information from the book, "Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes" by Kenneth E. Bailey

Luke 2:25-38 (CSB)

²⁵ There was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, looking forward to Israel's consolation, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he saw the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ Guided by the Spirit, he entered the temple. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸ Simeon took him up in his arms, praised God, and said,

²⁹ Now, Master,
you can dismiss your servant in peace,
as you promised.

³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation.

³¹ You have prepared it
in the presence of all peoples—

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and glory to your people Israel.

³³ His father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and told his mother Mary: "Indeed, this child is destined to cause the fall and rise of many in Israel and to be a sign that will be opposed—³⁵ and a sword will pierce your own soul—that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

³⁶ There was also a prophetess, Anna, a daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well along in years, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and was a widow for eighty-four years. She did not leave the temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayers. ³⁸ At that very moment, she came up and began to thank God and to speak about him to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

1. God used both a layperson and a prophetess to declare the good news about Jesus to others.

Do you love God enough to obey Him when He asks you to go, and obey Him when He asks you to speak up?

2. God used both a man and a woman to tell others that God's Messiah had finally arrived.