



THE SEASON OF ADVENT

WAITING *Well*

LUKE 2:25-27 (CSB)

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. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he saw the Lord's Messiah. 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,

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LUKE 2:28-32 (CSB)

Simeon took him up in his arms, praised God, and said,

“Now, Master,

you can dismiss your servant in peace,
as you promised.

For my eyes have seen your salvation.

You have prepared it

in the presence of all peoples—
a light for revelation to the Gentile
and glory to your people Israel.

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LUKE 2:32-35 (CSB)

His father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. 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 — and a sword will pierce your own soul—that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”

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1. Simeon was still sensitive to God's leading...



LUKE 2:27 (CSB)

“Guided by the Spirit he entered the temple...”

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2. Simeon was faithful in his waiting over a long period of time...



3. Simeon refused to follow false Messiahs...



4. Simeon waited with a discerning heart...



“Waiting patiently is not like waiting for the bus to come, the rain to stop, or the sun to rise. It is an active waiting in which we live the present moment to the full in order to find there the signs of the One we are waiting for.”

HENRI NOUWEN



5. Simeon waited in community....



“...a job is always better with a friend...”



LUKE 2:36-38 (CSB)

[And] 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, and was a widow for eighty-four years. She did not leave the temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayers. 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.

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“We all need a community to belong to that shares our hope for the future and helps us stay faithful in the present.”

RICH VILLODAS



6. As Simeon and Anna waited God formed them.



ROMANS 8:24-25 (MSG)

“...waiting does not diminish us, any more than waiting diminishes a pregnant mother. We are enlarged in the waiting. We, of course, don't see what is enlarging us. But the longer we wait, the larger we become, and the more joyful our expectancy.”

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“God, what are you trying to form in me?”

