

“The Joy of Christmas”

Luke 2:25-38

Central Idea: The focus of our Christmas joy should be on Jesus Christ for whom we give praise and thanksgiving.

Responses to the coming of Jesus:

- Elizabeth (1:42-43) - _____ and _____
- John the Baptist (still in the womb) (1:44) - _____ “...for joy”
- Mary (1:46-55) - _____ = praising and rejoicing
- Angels (2:13-14) - “_____ God”
- Shepherds (2:20) - “_____ and _____”
- Wise men (Matthew 2:9-11) - “_____ Him (Jesus)”

Simeon

1) His character:

- Righteous
_____ to the laws of both God and man
_____ the commands of God. (Not _____)
- Devout - God fearing - took the things of God _____

2) His activity:

- “Looking for the consolation of Israel”
“looking” = _____
“consolation” = _____ / _____
Simeon was waiting for the Messiah

3) Simeon’s condition:

- The _____ is in control of Simeon

4) His reaction:

- For fulfilling his promise to Simeon: God’s _____
- The Gentiles - a _____ to them.
- The Jews - Jesus was the _____ of Israel.

Anna

Background:

- The temple was the _____ of her life.
- She devoted herself completely to the Lord's service in the temple through _____ and _____.

Reaction:

- _____ God for sending the Messiah to the world.
- Told _____

Application:

1. _____ and _____ God for our Savior Jesus Christ.
 - Simeon praised God.
 - Anna thanked God.
 - They are for us examples of what we need to do in response to God's _____ to us of Jesus Christ.
2. God is often doing His _____ work when it seems like He is _____ to be found.

In those times when you don't think He is doing _____ behind the scenes He is actually up to something _____.