

**Transforming Daily**  
**“... according to Your Word . . .”**  
*Luke 2:29*

The story of Simeon is, to say the least, heartfelt. Here was an old man who long awaited the coming of Christ. He was even told by the Holy Spirit that he wouldn't die until he did see the Lord's Christ. Now that time had come. Simeon was drawn to the temple on that day because it was according to the Law that the time for Jesus to be presented to God as the firstborn, Hebrew, male, child had come.

Simeon's song, as it is referred to, in verses 29-32, is a song of rejoicing and praise. In his song, Simeon gives glory to God for His promise as it applied to him personally, publically and prophetically. His song offers praise to God for His provision of salvation through Jesus Christ for the Jew and Gentile alike. Simeon's song also celebrates hope in the Lord's Christ for all mankind though light and glory.

Simeon's experience, though exceptional and his own personal experience, is the experience of every 21<sup>st</sup> century believer. The text says that God's Word, that is His promise, had been fulfilled. And as it pertains specifically to Simeon, the text says that it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he saw the Lord's Christ, but it doesn't say how it was revealed to Simeon. Did the Holy Spirit audibly speak to him? Did the Holy Spirit write it on the wall? Did the Holy Spirit send an angel of the Lord? Did Simeon have a dream? It's uncertain, but any of these ways were possible.

However, how Simeon's experience and other 21<sup>st</sup> century believers' experiences are similar is related to God's Word. The Word of the Lord had been revealed to Simeon through the Old Testament and other supernatural means, in this case a direct revelation from the Holy Spirit. He didn't have the full canon of Scripture, that is, both the Old and New Testaments. The Spirit of God was still bringing revelation of God's truth through other means. Not the least of which was Christ Himself.

But 21<sup>st</sup> century Christians have God's Word fully disclosed to them. There is no need for further revelation through supernatural means such as visiting angels, talking donkeys, man swallowing whales/large fish, or further audible contact or divine verbal disclosure. **THAT IS NOT TO SAY THAT GOD CAN'T DO WHATEVER HE WANTS TO DO REGARDING HIS CREATION AND CHILDREN OR COMMUNICATE WITH HIS PEOPLE IN ANY WAY HE SOVEREIGNLY CHOOSES.** It is to say that He has already given us His full and complete written and disclosed incarnate Word at our disposal.

Do you read God's Word? Do you believe it to be God's Word? Are you waiting for "something else?" Have you received His incarnate Word? Do you share Him with others to be so? Are you saying to God with your life and actions, "I'll believe it when I hear it audibly and see it tangibly with my own eyes," or "I trust You, Lord, According to Your Word?"