



+ **YOU**

**Sermon Series:** Irrefutable: Prophecies that Point Us to Jesus

**To be used with Session 5:** The Light and Glory of God

**Sermon Title Possibilities:** The Luminary Before Us

**Scripture:** Luke 2:25-35

**Connection with Unit Theme:** To complement the small group study “*Irrefutable: Prophecies that Us to Jesus*,” this sermon challenges us to remember that Jesus shows us what God is like because He is the Son of God. The point of this message is that Jesus reveals God’s glory and love.

## Introduction

We’ve established that the wider context of Luke chapter two speaks to the backstory of Jesus (vv. 1-5), the birth of Jesus (vv. 6-11), the blessing of Jesus (vv. 12-32), the business of Jesus (vv. 33-50), and the building-up of Jesus (vv. 51-52).

In today’s text, Luke gives us a word about *Simeon’s resumé before God*—he was “righteous and devout,” about *Simeon’s relationship with God*—“the Holy Spirit was on Him” and he was “guided by the Spirit,” and about *Simeon’s reliance on God*—“It had been revealed to him that he would not see death before he saw the LORD’s Messiah.” It is in this context that Luke speaks to us about ***The Illumination of the Spirit of God***, ***The Celebration of the People of God***, and ***The Propitiation of the Son of God***.

### 1. The Illumination of the Spirit of God (vv. 25-27)

May the Lord help us to have a resumé like Simeon where we are righteous and devout before God. May the Lord help us to have a relationship that is marked by walking in fellowship with the Holy Spirit. And may the Lord help us to be reliant upon God for the fulfillment of His promises in Scripture.

Equally significant to those things is experiencing the illumination of the Holy Spirit. Christ promised that the Holy Spirit would indwell us (John 14:16-18), instruct us (John 14:26), and illuminate truth and Christ to us (John 16:13). The Holy Spirit is the Anointing who teaches us (1 John 2:27). Friend, seek to walk closely with Him, and live clean before Him, so you can hear clearly from Him.

### 2. The Celebration of the People of God (vv. 28-32)

There are some passages of Scripture that suggest that we ought to have persistent praise (Ps. 34:1-3), personal praise (Ps. 103:1-12), and passionate praise (Ps. 100:1-5)—but this text encourages us to have prophetic praise (vv.

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28-32). Simeon's praise was based on Scripture. He said, "You have prepared it in the presence of all peoples—a light for revelation to the Gentiles and glory to your people Israel." Simeon echoes several Scripture verses in his praise (Is. 9:2; 42:6; 49:6; 60:1-3).

Let's determine today—as we look at the glory of God through Jesus Christ—to engage in the celebration of the people of God with persistent praise, personal praise, passionate praise, and prophetic praise to our King. The Lord desires our worship (John 4:23-24) and the Lord demands our worship (Matt. 4:10).

### **3. The Propitiation of the Son of God (vv. 33-35)**

The concept of propitiation refers to the fact that Jesus offered Himself to appease the wrath of God and pay the penalty of man's sin. He is the propitiation—the satisfying sacrifice—for our sins (1 John 2:1-2). Luke alludes to this when he recorded the words of Simeon to Mary and Joseph. Simeon essentially told them that Christ would bring deliverance, Christ would bring damnation, and Christ would bear our sins through death. Deliverance, because many would rise; death, because many would fall; and His death, because "a sword will pierce your own soul." The deliverance He brings, the damnation He seeks to avert, and the death that He died reveals both the glory and love of God.

**Conclusion:** My dears, let me encourage you to commit yourself to prayer and Bible engagement so you can experience the illumination of the Spirit of God, to engage in personal worship and Sunday worship services so you can execute the celebration of the people of God, and to give yourself to sharing the faith so lost people can reap the benefits of the propitiation of the Son of God.

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