



Pastor-Teacher | Chris Regas | 1.9.2021

Worship Until the Advent of the Lord!

Lesson 4 • Luke 2:33-35

ADVENT on PURPOSE: A Bible-Based, Christ-Exalting, and Gospel-Centered Approach		
The CANDLES of Advent	The CHARACTERS of Advent	The CALLINGS of Advent
1. The PROMISE Candle	The <i>Prophets</i> who predicted His coming.	WAIT for His arrival in the “Not Yet”!
2. The PREPARATION Candle	The <i>OT Saints</i> who were prepared for His coming.	WATCH with anticipation!
3. The PROCLAMATION Candle	The <i>Shepherds</i> who proclaimed His coming.	WITNESS with abandon!
4. The PARTICIPATION Candle	The <i>Wisemen</i> who participated in His coming	WORSHIP with adoration!
5. The PURPOSE Candle	The <i>Sovereign Savior</i> who redeems and restores.	WELCOME His arrival in the “Now-Not Yet”!

Simeon's Greeting Prepares Us to Greet Christ When He Comes Again!

“For My eyes have seen Your salvation!” (2:30)

See Tannehill for the Isaiah reference!

Overview of Simeon's Greeting at the Advent of the King

- (2:25) Simeon **waited for the arrival**, because he knew the **OT PROMISES** (especially Isaiah's prophecies).
- (2:26-28) Simeon **watched with anticipation**, because he was **PREPARED**.
- (2:29-32) Simeon **witnessed with abandon**, because Good News must be **PROCLAIMED**.
- (2:33-35) Simeon **worshipped with adoration**, because the King's arrival calls for whole-hearted **PARTICIPATION**.

➤ Strange passage for Christmas.

➤ Prophetic passage in context.

- 1) The **Prophetic Witness** by Simeon About the Child (2:28-32)
- 2) The **Parental Wonder** Concerning the Child (2:33-34a)
 - Joseph and Mary respond with **amazement**. (v. 33)
 - Simeon responds by **blessing the parents** of Jesus. (v. 34a)
- 3) The **Prophetic Warning** by Simeon to the Mother of the Child (2:34b-35)

Why to Mary only and not Joseph also?

Simeon's Prophetic Warning to Jesus Worshipers

Even though it's a blessing to know King Jesus, it's **COSTLY** to worship Him, because we're called to worship Him in a context of hatred and heartache.

The Divine Destiny of the Child King

1. This Child Will Be the Stone of DIVISION.

“Behold. This child is appointed/destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel” (v. 34)

➤ What is the **significance** of “falling and rising”?

Judgment: A Stone to Stumble Over – Isaiah 8:14-15

Salvation: A Costly Cornerstone to Build Upon – Isaiah 28:13-16

- Jesus is the **Stone** the builder's rejected but also the costly **Cornerstone** of the Living Temple, the Church.

Luke 20:15-18; Matthew 21:42-45; Romans 9:30-33; 1Peter 2:4-10

- Why is "Israel" **singled out**?

- Simeon's warning to Mary is **the same** as Jesus' warning to all His followers. *Luke 12:49-53; Matthew 10:32-39*

Jesus was the Stone of Division throughout His ministry: *Luke 4:29; 6:20-26; 13:28-29, 33-35; 16:25; 18:9-14; 19:44, 47-48; 20:14-18; esp. 12:51*

2. This Child Will Be the Sign of **OPPOSITION**.

"Behold. This child is appointed/destined...and for a sign to be opposed—" (v. 34)

- Opposition has been the pattern ever since the **FIRST** promise of Messiah was given. *Genesis 3:15*

Jesus: *"A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a slave above his master" Matthew 10:24-25*

Paul: *"All who seek to live godly will be persecuted." 2Timothy 3:10-15*

3. This Child Will Suffer **CRUCIFIXION** Under the Sword of **PERSECUTION**.

"Behold. This child is appointed/destined...for a sign to be opposed—and a sword will pierce even your own soul—" (v. 35)

- Mary's heart will be **TROUBLED** throughout her Son's life and ministry. *Luke 2:41-52; 8:19-21*
- Mary's heart will ultimately be **TORN APART** by His crucifixion. *Luke 23:27, 49, 55; 24:5, 10, 22, 24; John 19:25-27*
 - 1) God's heart for Mary's **SUFFERING** and ours.
 - 2) Christ's heart for Mary's **SINS** and ours.

4. This Child Will Be the Sifter of **MOTIVATIONS**.

"Behold. This child is appointed/destined...to the end that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed" (v. 35)

- Jesus reveals our hearts not to merely shame us but to fully save us by showing us our great need for Him as...
 - Our **High Priest** who suffered in our place to **purchase** our salvation.
 - Our **Risen King** who enables us to **overcome** division, opposition, and persecution until He comes again with His Kingdom.
 - Our **Faithful Prophet** whose promises will all be **fulfilled** just like they were at His first coming.



Let's Worship the King with Costly Worship Until He Comes Again!

*Jesus will graciously reveal our deceptive hearts,
soften our hard hearts, revive the apathetic hearts,
and strengthen our humble hearts until He comes again!*

"He has come!" "He is coming again!"

