



Breadcrumbs of Hope

December 14-20, 2025

INTRODUCTION

Think about something you waited a long time to do, such as leave home, get married, have a baby, or get your dream job.

What was your greatest expectation for that event?

Did the event live up to your expectation?

Sometimes events in life greatly exceed our expectations, and other times they fail to live up to the hype in our mind. Simeon lived in hope of God's promised Messiah. Recognizing Jesus as the One through whom salvation would be made available to all people, Simeon offered praise to God. Following Simeon's example, we should recognize and receive the salvation God offers in Jesus, and make praise to God for His salvation a prominent element of our lives.

UNDERSTANDING

READ [LUKE 2:27-32](#).

How did Simeon recognize Jesus?

What is the relationship between Simeon's righteousness and devotion and his recognition of the Savior?

What we learn from Simeon is that an intimate, personal relationship with God enables us to respond to God's leading. He was hoping of the Messiah's coming, which indicates he took God's promises seriously.

What does Simeon predict about the mission of Jesus?

The word translated "Gentiles" in [verse 32](#) is from the Greek word *ethnos*, meaning "nations." It's the same word Jesus used in the Great Commission, "go and make disciples of all nations" ([Matthew 28:19](#)). The coming of Jesus was more than a fulfillment of Israel's messianic hopes. Jesus is the light revealing and providing God's way of salvation for all people.

What is your greatest longing?

What does that longing reveal about the central focus of your life?

FAITH IN ACTION

What is something you can do together as a group to show His hope to someone who doesn't know Him in these coming weeks?