



## 1. Understand \_\_\_\_\_

(vv.25-33)

**Luke 2:25** Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. **26** And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. **27** And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, **28** he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, **29** "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; **30** for my eyes have seen your salvation **31** that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, **32** a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel." **33** And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. **34** And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed **35** (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."  
(ESV)

## 2. Realize \_\_\_\_\_

(vv.34a, 35b)

## 3. Let \_\_\_\_\_

(vv.34b-35a)

# Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Isaiah 40:1-5**. Knowing that these familiar "Christmastime verses" speak to a time yet future, how can this promised consummation of the ages motivate you to keep a positive attitude when things are hard?
2. Read **John 3:19-20**. What are some of the specific reasons an accurate portrayal of Christ is so fervently and angrily opposed by the non-Christians in our generation?
3. Read **Hebrews 12:1-3**. What tempts you to "grow weary" or be "fainthearted" in your alliance and loyalty to Christ at Christmastime?
4. Read **Acts 3:18-21**. How can this perspective motivate you to clearly present the message of repentance from sin and faith in Jesus Christ this Christmas?

## *This Week's Bible Reading Schedule*

**December 8<sup>th</sup>**  
*Dan.11-12 & 3Jn.*

**December 9<sup>th</sup>**  
*Hos.1-4 & Jude*

**December 10<sup>th</sup>**  
*Hos.5-8 & Rev.1*

**December 11<sup>th</sup>**  
*Hos.9-11 & Rev.2*

**December 12<sup>th</sup>**  
*Hos.12-14 & Rev.3*

**December 13<sup>th</sup>**  
*Joel 1-3 & Rev.4*

**December 14<sup>th</sup>**  
*Amos 1-3 & Rev.5*

**December 15<sup>th</sup>**  
*Amos 4-6 & Rev.6*

## *This Week's Compass 20/20 Discussion Question*

- Read **Isaiah 60:1-5**. Why do we as God's children need to take seriously our job of representing his truth and making sure it shines forth from Compass (Ps.43:3)?

*The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website (FocalPointMinistries.org).*

Msg. 07-38 – ***The Enduring Clash with Nativity's Antagonist***

Msg. 08-21 – ***Gospel Crazy: Unashamed of Its Reproach***

Msg. 07-24 – ***Looking Past the Pain to the Prize***

Msg. 13-38 – ***When You're Ridiculed for Christ***

Msg. 14-35 – ***When Following Him is Painful***

Msg. 12-42 – ***A Controversial Baby: Simeon on the Polarizing Effect of Jesus Christ***

Msg. 14-24 – ***Your Fraternity of Hearers***

## *This Sermon's Social Media Hashtag*

**#ChristmasAtCompass**

*Social Media Connections:*

**CompassChurch**



**FocalPointRadio**



**PastorMike**

*Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.*

Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. ***The Cost of Discipleship***. SCM Press Ltd., 1959.

Carson, D. A. ***Telling the Truth: Evangelizing Postmoderns***. Zondervan, 2000.

Cochran, Gregory. ***Christians in the Crosshairs: Persecution in the Bible and Around the World Today***. WBC, 2016.

Foxe, John. ***Foxe's Book of Martyrs***. The John C. Winston Co., 1926.

Hefley, James and Marti. ***By Their Blood: Christian Martyrs of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century***. Baker Books, 1996.

House, Paul. ***Who Will Be Saved? Defending the Biblical Understanding of God & Salvation***. Crossway, 2000.

Nash, Ronald H. ***Worldviews in Conflict: Choosing Christianity in a World of Ideas***. Zondervan, 1992.

Nash, Ronald. ***Is Jesus the Only Savior?*** Zondervan, 1994.

Nyquist, Paul. ***Prepare: Living Your Faith in an Increasingly Hostile Culture***. Moody Publishers, 2015.

Piper, John, et al. ***The Supremacy of Christ in a Postmodern World***. Crossway, 2007.

Pritchard, Ray. ***An Anchor for the Soul: Help for the Present, Hope for the Future***. Moody Press, 2000.

Sande, Ken. ***The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflicts***. Baker Books, 1997.

Water, Mark, ed. ***The New Encyclopedia of Christian Martyrs***. Baker Books, 2001.

Zacharias, Ravi. ***Jesus Among Other Gods: The Absolute Claims of the Christian Message***. Word Publishing, 2000.