

SERMON SUMMARY

Date: December 24, 2006	11:00 am Worship Service
Preacher: Rev. Donald Lawrence	Reference: St. Luke 2: 21-30
Topic: Christmas: Comfort and Joy in the Lord...For Lowly Ones – The Saints	

What does it take to be a saint? This passage focuses on the response of Simeon, Anna, Mary and Joseph at the presentation of the infant Jesus in the Temple. Here it is clearly demonstrated how diligence in the things of God leads to insight and inspiration. From the passage, it is noticeable that:

- ▲ Mary and Joseph were Obedient to the Word given to them
- ▲ Simeon was Overjoyed at the Word fulfilled to him
- ▲ Anna was Offering a Word about the Redeemer

There are some other themes that this passage also seems to identify. Firstly, there is God's Regard for the Lowly. This was demonstrated in:

- ✦ Mary & Joseph - Poor and Willing Partners with God (verses 22-24)
- ✦ Simeon - Pious and Waiting on Promise from God (verses 25-26)
- ✦ Anna - Prophetess & Widow Praising and Praying daily to God (verses 36-37)

This is a call to depend on the Lord in our condition, which demands of us to access the Lord's provision for the lowly. The fact is that there is acceptance for the humble.

Secondly, the passage also speaks of God's Revelation through the Lowly, as seen in how God:

- ✦ Showed Mary & Joseph what Child to be called: His Designation (verse 21)
- ✦ Spoke through Simeon what Child would cause: His Disturbance. *34a Rift, 34b Rebellion, 35a Revelation & 35b Remorse* (verses 33-35)
- ✦ Spoke through Anna what Child carried: His Deliverance (verse 38b)

This is a call to be dedicated to the Lord through our commission, which demands of us to access the Lord's purpose for the lowly. The fact is that there is appointment for the humble.

Finally, this passage speaks of God's Reassurance of the Lowly, as seen when:

- ✦ Mary & Joseph experienced comfort through their Observation of:
 - The Lord's Law
 - The Lord's Revelation
- ✦ Simeon experienced comfort through his Opportunity to see The Lord of each and all
- ✦ Anna experienced comfort resulting in her Ovation to The Lord

This is a call to delight in the Lord because of our consolation. This demands of us to access the Lord's peace for the lowly because the fact is that there is assurance for the humble.

Christmas affords us the opportunity to be assured of the benefit of trusting in the wisdom of God and faithfulness to the task He assigns us and so prove to be true saints in Christ, experiencing His comfort and Joy. Let us follow the light of the star – be true to the leading of The Lord, for in the end the journey will be worth it.

