

New Year's Eve – Seeing Through God's Eyes
Sermon Outline
December 31, 2017

Text – **Luke 2:22-26**

Reading Schedule:

Sunday	12/31	Proverbs Ch. 31; Luke 2: 1-21
Monday	1/1	Proverbs Ch. 1; Luke 2: 22-35
Tuesday	1/2	Proverbs Ch. 2; Luke 2: 36-52
Wednesday	1/3	Proverbs Ch. 3; Revelation 19: 1-21
Thursday	1/4	Proverbs Ch. 4; Matthew 22: 34-40; 28: 16-20
Friday	1/5	Proverbs Ch. 5; Revelation 20: 1-15
Saturday	1/6	Proverbs Ch. 6; Revelation 21: 1-27

Luke 2:25-32 – ²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. ^(U) He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, ^(V) and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ^(W)²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

²⁹ "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, ^(X)
you may now dismiss ^[d] your servant in peace. ^(Y)

³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation, ^(Z)

³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel. ^(AA)

The story of Simeon, the man in Jerusalem, who was righteous and devout, filled with the Holy Spirit, and waiting for Lord's Messiah gives us direction on how we can enter the New Year, 2018.

Simeon saw the plight of world, the identity of the couple and their baby, and even his own life through God's eyes.

Just as God the Father did, Simeon "Saw the Lamb of God that would be sacrificed for the saving of all humankind." Simeon was able to wait. Even though we don't know how long he waited, we know that he saw his circumstances through the lens of God's eternal perspective and Simon received what he waited for.

We like Simeon are called by God to "See through God's Eyes!"

SEEING THROUGH GOD'S EYES!

I AM A SPIRIT WHO HAS A SOUL
AND I LIVE IN A BODY!

I AM NOT A SOUL

I AM A SPIRIT

I AM NOT A BODY

I AM A SPIRIT

I AM A SPIRIT WHO HAS A SOUL
AND I LIVE IN A BODY!

1. Take an eternal perspective into 2018!

- a. The fact that you are a spirit means you are eternal in your existence.
 - 1. Your soul is always changing and is simply your
 - i. Will – what I want
 - ii. Intellect – what I think
 - iii. Emotions – how I feel
 - 2. Your body is always in a state of deterioration
 - i. It is simply the packaging that your true self, your spirit is contained in
 - 3. You are a spirit.
 - i. To see yourself through God’s eyes requires an eternal perspective.
 - ii. The word “eternal” is used of persons and things which are in their nature endless.
- b. **Revelation 19: 6-8** – *“Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: “Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. ⁷ Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. ⁸Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.” (Fine linen stands for the **righteous acts of God’s holy people.**)*
- c. **PRINCIPLE #1 – WHAT THE CHURCH DOES TODAY ON EARTH HAS ETERNAL IMPACT IN HEAVEN!**
- d. "Righteous acts"—the kind of morally virtuous lifestyle **powered from above**—
 - 1. Here, you participate in the five-fold mission of the church (5Ms);
 - 2. There, you give Jesus’ bride fine linen, bright and clean to wear.

e. **Five-fold Mission of the Church**

1. **MAGNIFY** – We express our love for God through praise and by obeying His Commands. (Matthew 22: 37)
2. **MISSION** – We seize every opportunity to demonstrate Christ by witnessing to others by word and deed. (Matthew 28: 19a)
3. **MEMBERSHIP** – We encourage all to belong to God's eternal family through fellowship with Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church. (Matthew 28: 19b)
4. **MATURITY** – We study to grow more Christ-like in our thoughts, words, and deeds. (Matthew 28: 20)
5. **MINISTRY** – We demonstrate God's love by meeting the needs and healing the hurts of others. (Matthew 22: 39)

f. There you give Jesus' bride fine linen, bright and clean to wear. "his bride has made herself ready. ⁸Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear." (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God's holy people.)



g. **Revelation 21: 1-2** – Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,”^{[a](A)} for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away,^(B) and there was no longer any sea.² I saw the Holy City,^(C) the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,^(D) prepared as a bride^(E) beautifully dressed for her husband.

1. After the judgment of Satan and the judgment of the dead that are not in Christ, the New Jerusalem, the bride of Christ will descend for the marriage feast of the Lamb.
2. You and I are making the wedding gown for the bride of the Lamb through what Holy Spirit does through us today!
3. We will be present! We will be there!
4. Give God praise!!!

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

I AM A SPIRIT WHO HAS A SOUL
AND I LIVE IN A BODY!

I AM NOT A SOUL

I AM A SPIRIT

I AM NOT A BODY

I AM A SPIRIT

I AM A SPIRIT WHO HAS A SOUL
AND I LIVE IN A BODY!

Five-fold Mission of the Church

1. **MAGNIFY** – We express our love for God through praise and by obeying His Commands.
2. **MISSION** – We seize every opportunity to demonstrate Christ by witnessing to others by word and deed.
3. **MEMBERSHIP** – We encourage all to belong to God’s eternal family through fellowship with Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church.
4. **MATURITY** – We study to grow more Christ-like in our thoughts, words, and deeds.
5. **MINISTRY** – We demonstrate God’s love by meeting the needs and healing the hurts of others.