

Seeing Through God's Eyes
~Ourselves and Others~
Sermon Outline
January 7, 2018

Text – **Luke 2:22-26**

Reading Schedule:

Sunday	1/7	Proverbs Ch. 7; Luke 2: 1-21
Monday	1/8	Proverbs Ch. 8; Luke 2: 22-35
Tuesday	1/9	Proverbs Ch. 9; Luke 2: 36-52
Wednesday	1/10	Proverbs Ch. 10; Psalm 139: 1-24
Thursday	1/11	Proverbs Ch. 11; Ephesians 3: 1-21
Friday	1/12	Proverbs Ch. 12
Saturday	1/13	Proverbs Ch. 13

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!

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 expresses to us the work of God in the life of every human being. God speaks God's promise for every life into every life. In Simeon's case the promise of God was “*that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.*”

The tool that God is placing in our hands is that of seeing ourselves and others the way God sees us.

SEEING THROUGH GOD'S EYES!

SEE YOURSELF THROUGH GOD'S EYES!

1. God Loves Me!

a. **Psalm 139: 13-16** – *For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴ I praise*

you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful; I know that full well. ¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. ¹⁶ Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

b. God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life.

c. Principle #1 – The circumstances of your life do not matter, God’s plan extends beyond your background and your current situation into the very mind of God.

1. The circumstances around your birth don’t matter.
 - i. Boaz was the son of Rahab the prostitute from Jericho,
 - ii. but Boaz was in the lineage of Jesus Christ.
2. Your current disappointments don’t matter.
 - i. Sarah gave up on having a son and sent her husband to sleep with another woman,
 - ii. But Sarah became the mother of Isaac and thus the mother of many nations.
3. Mistakes you’ve made don’t matter.
 - i. David committed adultery with a man’s wife and then killed him,
 - ii. But David became a man after God’s own heart.
4. Difficulties you’re facing don’t matter.
 - i. Joseph was betrayed by and thrown in a pit by his brothers; sold into slavery and taken to Egypt; falsely accused of rape and thrown into prison,
 - ii. But Joseph became the Prime Minister of Egypt, the most powerful nation on the earth.

d. Here’s what God sees:

1. v. 13 – God created you!
2. v. 14 – You are my wonderful work!

3. v. 15 – I knew everything about you before you were born.
4. v. 16 – You were conceived first in My mind before you were conceived in the womb.

2. **Luke 2: 26** – It had been revealed to [Simeon] by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

- a. **Principle#2 – Process is God's way of getting you ready for when you "GET THERE!"**
- b. God reveals God's Promise for your life by speaking the Promise into your life.
 1. The Promise is in you.
 2. The Promise flows from the inside of you, to the outside of you, into the lives of those around.
- c. Have you ever seen some one into whom God spoke God's promise into their life? (Taking Chaka to see Adrien Dunn; Antonio Myrick)
- d. God spoke God's Promise for your life into you,
 1. A dream
 2. An aspiration
 3. A life goal
- e. God put you in God's Process to fulfill God's Promise for your life.
- f. Simeon understood that which is confusing to many of us: **"What gets you to God's promise for your life is God's process for your life and not a single event."**
 1. Simeon could endure years of expectation, waiting for the consolation of Israel because he could see his life through God's eyes. He understood:
 - i. that there were steps to be taken,
 - ii. that certain things had to happen,
 - iii. preparations had to be made,
 - iv. alignment had to be established.

v. **PROCESS IS GOD’S WAY OF GETTING YOU READY FOR WHEN YOU “GET THERE!”**

2. **DON’T QUIT. YOU’RE IN PROCESS!**

- i. It’s taking too long! **YOU’RE IN PROCESS!**
- ii. I didn’t think it would take all this! **YOU’RE IN PROCESS!**
- iii. Others don’t seem to have to work this hard to get it done! **YOU’RE IN PROCESS!**
- iv. Why can’t it just happen for me and be over with? **YOU’RE IN PROCESS!**

3. **AND IT’S GOD’S PROCESS THAT PRODUCES GOD’S PROMISE!**

3. **Ephesians 2: 20** – *Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,*

a. **Principle #3 – God looks beyond what man sees and says about you, and He has dreams for you that are bigger than you can imagine!**

b. **SEE OTHERS THROUGH GOD’S EYES!**

c. When we see people who seem to be confused or misguided in how to navigate the process required to fulfill God’s promise for their lives, don’t sit on the side line and criticize; don’t discourage their efforts; don’t project your failures on their lives; don’t throw shade their light;

d. Instead, see them through God’s eyes! **HELP THEM!**

1. **Luke 2: 34** – *Then Simeon blessed them...*

2. He showed us how to see others through God’s eyes.

3. Yes, he saw and young man, a teen-aged mother, a poor couple from the sticks with a little baby. But he saw them through God’s eyes

4. Come “alongside” them to show them the way!

5. Make yourself available to support them when they need it.

e. It's the gospel – the good news lived through us when we see others through God's eyes.

1. **Romans 5: 6-8** – ⁶ *You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

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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.