

**Seeing Through God's Eyes**  
**~Ourselves and Others~**  
**Sermon Outline**  
**January 21, 2018**

Text – **Luke 2:25-32**

Reading Schedule:

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1/21</b>	<b>Proverbs Ch. 21; Luke 2: 1-21</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>1/22</b>	<b>Proverbs Ch. 22; Luke 2: 22-35</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>1/23</b>	<b>Proverbs Ch. 23; Luke 2: 36-52</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>1/24</b>	<b>Proverbs Ch. 24; Psalm 139: 1-24</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>1/25</b>	<b>Proverbs Ch. 25; Acts 8: 26-40</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>1/26</b>	<b>Proverbs Ch. 26; Matthew 28: 16-20</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>1/27</b>	<b>Proverbs Ch. 27; Acts 2: 1-21</b>

**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**

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

**Luke 2:25-32** – <sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout.<sup>(U)</sup> He was waiting for the consolation of Israel,<sup>(V)</sup> and the Holy Spirit was on him. <sup>26</sup> It had been ***revealed to him by the Holy Spirit*** that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. <sup>27</sup> ***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,<sup>(W)</sup><sup>28</sup> Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

<sup>29</sup> ***“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,***<sup>(X)</sup>  
*you may now dismiss<sup>[d]</sup> your servant in peace.*<sup>(Y)</sup>

<sup>30</sup> *For my eyes have seen your salvation,*<sup>(Z)</sup>

<sup>31</sup> *which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:*

<sup>32</sup> *a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and the glory of your people Israel.”*<sup>(AA)</sup>

## **TOOLS NOT RULES!**

The story of Simeon expresses to us how God works in the life of every human being. God speaks God's promise for every life into every life. (You need to understand; you are living in that promise right now!) In Simeon's case the promise of God was “*that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.*” Simeon was living in God's promise every second he was alive. We can miss the fact that we're living in God's promise for our lives because we get blinded by circumstances, or we don't recognize God's promise, or remain in God's process - in short, we don't see ourselves and others through God's eyes.

## **TOOLS NOT RULES!**

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 OTHERS THROUGH GOD’S EYES!**

#### **1. God Loves Me!**

**a. 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.**

i. God is providing, protecting, directing, and supporting, loving, forgiving, and lifting you in whatever circumstances you’re in.

**b. Psalm 139: 13-16** tells us, “Here’s what God sees:

1. v. 13 – I created you! (You belong to me!)

2. v. 14 – You are my wonderful work! (My Masterpiece!)

3. v. 15 – I knew everything about you before you were born. (Foreknowledge!)

4. v. 16 – You were conceived first in My mind before you were conceived in the womb. (Double Conception!)

**2. Luke 2: 26-27a** – *It had been revealed to [Simeon] by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. <sup>27</sup> Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts.*

**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.

**c.** When the Promise of God is revealed by the Word of God in the spirit of God's person, the anointing of God is available for its fulfillment!

- d. When the Word of God is preached, miracles of salvation, healings, deliverance, signs and wonders accompany the Word! **EXPECT THAT!**

**3. Luke 2: 28b-32 – Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:** <sup>29</sup> **“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,** <sup>(X)</sup>

*you may now dismiss<sup>[d]</sup> your servant in peace.* <sup>(Y)</sup>

<sup>30</sup> *For my eyes have seen your salvation,* <sup>(Z)</sup>

<sup>31</sup> *which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:*

<sup>32</sup> *a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and the glory of your people Israel.”* <sup>(C)</sup>

- a. **Principle #3 – The fulfilling of God’s promise for your life is a part of the process in someone else’s life!**

- b. **SEE YOURSELF AND OTHERS THROUGH GOD’S EYES!**

- c. **Acts 8: 26-39 – Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road...”** <sup>27</sup> **on his way he met an Ethiopian<sup>[a]</sup> eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake ... This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship,** <sup>28</sup> **and ...was ... reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet.** <sup>29</sup> **The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”** ... <sup>30</sup> **“Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked.** <sup>31</sup> **“How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?”** <sup>34</sup> **The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?”** <sup>35</sup> **Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.**

1. Philip was experiencing the fulfillment of the promise Jesus made to His disciples. (**Matthew 28: 16-20; Acts 1: 4-5, 8; Acts 2: 1-21**)
  - i. He went from Jerusalem, to Judea, to Gaza (outside Judea) as was promised.

- ii. He witnessed to the Ethiopian Finance Minister, who was in the process of understanding God's promise for his life.
  - iii. Philip was experiencing the fulfillment of God's promise in his life while being a part of the process required to prepare the Finance Minister for the fulfillment of God's promise in the Finance Minister's life.
  - iv. The Finance Minister took the good news about Jesus to Ethiopia, a nation that was already worshiping God through Judaism.
  - v. Some three-hundred years later, Ethiopia became the first Christian nation.
2. When we see people who seem to be confused or misguided or distracted or discouraged or unable 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;
  3. Instead, see them through God's eyes! **HELP THEM!**
  4. Come along side – v. 29
  5. Offer to help – v. 30
    - i. Don't solve their problem
    - ii. Teach them how to solve their own problem
  6. Apply the word and share the good new – v. 35

## **INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

### **d. Luke 2: 34 – *Then Simeon blessed them...***

1. He showed us how to see others through God's eyes.
2. 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
3. Come "alongside" them to show them the way!

4. Make yourself available to support them when they need it.
- a. It's the gospel – the good news lived through us when we see others through God's eyes.
  1. **Romans 5: 6-8** – *<sup>6</sup> You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

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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.