

# Sermon

- ◆ **First Reading:** *Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6, 12-14*
- ◆ **Second Reading:** *Colossians 3:12-21*
- ◆ **Gospel:** *Luke 2:22-40*

In this Gospel reading we come across 2 very devout spiritual people, Simeon & Anna! What do we know about them? Or what do we need to know about them?, not much really! They suddenly appear on the scene in the temple while the infant Jesus was being consecrated according to the Law of Moses, as stated, "EVERY FIRST BORN MALE MUST BE CONSECRATED TO THE LORD....."

Simeon only wants to see the Infant Saviour, he gives his blessing to Mary and her child ; he foretells the truth to Mary about what lies ahead in the life of this Child "HE IS DESTINED FOR THE RISE AND FALL OF MANY IN ISRAEL, DESTINED TO BE A SIGN OF REJECTION", "AND A SWORD WILL PIERCE YOUR OWN SOUL TOO" ; In other words Mary was destined to suffer alongside her Son ; After that , an elderly holy woman appears on the scene, her name is Anna who devoted her life to prayer & fasting "SHE CAME BY JUST AT THAT MOMENT AND BEGAN TO PRAISE GOD.."

Maybe that's all these two people lived for, JUST TO SEE WITH THEIR OWN EYES the Infant Saviour ; part of the prayer of Simeon was

"NOW MASTER, YOU CAN LET YOUR SERVANT GO IN PEACE BECAUSE MY EYES HAVE SEEN THE SALVATION WHICH YOU HAVE PREPARED FOR ALL THE NATIONS TO SEE...." Who knows? most likely Simeon & Anna died happily and at peace shortly afterwards, their spiritual longings had been satisfied ;

What do you and I long for INTERNALLY? Or when was the last time you woke up at three in the morning wondering about the course of your life?? .. parents will say they just want to see their children grow up happy and fulfilled, but eventually when the rearing is over or when the years seem to pass too quickly, that same question will rebound for all of us, for me as well

WHAT COURSE is my life taking?? TO WHERE am I heading?, and I'm talking about geographicals, none of us can go very far in the midst of these Covid restrictions, more so, WHERE are you and I going INTERNALLY??

Do you believe you are any closer to God this christmas than you were this time last year?

3. AS another year draws to a close, as Simeon & Anna went off happy having their spiritual dream come true,

And as the present state of our world is uncertain about a lot of things WHERE ARE YOU IN THE MIDST OF IT ALL? WHAT COURSE IS YOUR LIFE TAKING INTERNALLY ; Perhaps between now and 1<sup>st</sup> January you and I could pray and reflect on our personal journey thru' this mortal temporary life ;

What is your heart's desire? Is it something material, social or spiritual?? As believers in the Saviour Jesus, surely our greatest desire would have to be to enjoy UNION with God Holy Spirit, here in this passing life and forever in Eternity.....

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