

## Prophecies – Simeon and Anna

(I wrote)

Long before Jesus was born, many men; over many years, prophesied about His coming.

In fact, prophets told many details about His birth HUNDREDS of years before he was even born.

Imagine someone speaking about YOUR birth long before the birth of your own mother.

In fact, there were over 300 prophecies made about Jesus' birth and life before He was even conceived in His mother's womb.

These prophecies were told so that the Israelites would expect and recognize Jesus when He came.

In Genesis 3:15 we read that the Savior would be "born of a woman"

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In Isaiah 9:1 we read that the Savior would teach first in Galilee.

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And these prophecies were just about the beginning of His life!

If someone told you 300 facts about someone that you had never met before, do you think you would recognize him?

Well, when Jesus was born, some people recognized Him when He came and many, many people did not.

The wise men that brought presents knew He was the Messiah.

The shepherds that visited the stable knew that He was the Messiah.

His mother and father knew that He was the Messiah.

John's parents knew that He was the Messiah.

Even king Herod knew He had been born and tried to kill Him.

And there were two other people who knew that He was the Messiah.

Their names were Simeon and Anna.

Simeon was a priest; who's only desire was to see the Savior before his death.

God himself had told Simeon that a Savior was coming.

And Simeon had waited a long, long, long time to see the Savior.

Anna was a widowed priestess who spent all of her time in the temple.

She too had waited a long, long, long time for the Savior.

And it is these two people, Simeon and Anna that we are going to learn about today.

After Jesus was born, the days slipped by one by one. People went about their work as they always had. The sun rose in the morning and set in the evening.

The shepherds continued to pasture their flocks in the fields around Bethlehem. Life continued its usual course, just as if nothing had happened.

But Mary had a special child in her arms —the Redeemer of the world.

Like any other child in those days, the baby was given a name on the eighth *day*—*and Mary and Joseph named their son; Jesus, which means savior.*

Now many centuries before this time, when all of the first-born in Egypt were put to death, God had spared the first-born of the Israelites in the land of Goshen.

So, from that time on, when a first-born son was born, their parents would take that child and "present" it to the Lord. In other words, he was dedicated to the Lord.

So, on the fortieth day of his birth; because Jesus was their firstborn, Mary and Joseph brought Him to Jerusalem; to the temple; which was two hours away from Bethlehem.

This was the first time that Jesus was in Jerusalem, the city of the Great King. No one recognized Joseph and Mary as they walked through the streets, and no one recognized the royal child Mary carried in her arms.

When Mary and Joseph and baby Jesus entered the temple, they offered the usual sacrifice for poor people. Rich people would offer a lamb; poor people would offer a pair of pigeons or turtle doves.

Being poor, Mary and Joseph would have given a pair of pigeons or turtle doves.

A priest approached them and unthinkingly laid his hands on the child. He had blessed the Messiah without realizing it.

Suddenly an old, gray man entered the temple with great haste. He hurried straight to Mary. *He* knew who the child was! Simeon knew because God had told him.

Simeon's only great desire in life was for the Messiah, the one who would redeem his people.

Long ago, at a time of great grief, God had revealed to Simeon that he would not die until he had seen the Savior. He told Simeon these things in order to comfort Simeon.

Simeon had waited and waited for the Savior to be born.

So long in fact that Simeon was now an old man. The dark shadow of death were creeping toward him.

Simeon was living in dark times for the people of Israel. The people were oppressed by a powerful foe.

But now the great day had finally come—the most beautiful day in Simeon's entire life.

Mary offered the baby to Simeon. Reverently the old man took the child in his arms.

Full of joy, he praised God. "Now I can die in peace," he cried out, "for my eyes have seen Your salvation, O Lord."

Indeed, Simeon need not fear death, for this child he held in his arms would conquer sin and death.

Because the Redeemer had come, it didn't matter that Simeon lived in dark times. The Light of the world was finally beginning to shine.

Simeon began to sing. He sang of the light, the great and beautiful light that descended from heaven to beam down not only upon Israel but upon all the nations.

That light was Jesus.

As he sang, Simeon said that many would come to love this child and would receive happiness through Him.

But there would be many others who would hate him.  
This child would cause some to fall and others to rise.

Simeon had more things to say. His aged eyes saw far  
into the future.

He knew that Mary's joy was greater than anyone  
else's joy.

But he also knew that her *sorrow* would also be  
greater than anyone else's sorrow.

Simeon knew that she would suffer intense pain,  
when Jesus was placed upon the cross and crucified.

When Simeon fell silent, another voice was raised.  
This voice belonged to a little old, gray woman—the  
prophetess Anna.

She was an 84-year-old widow who spent her time in  
the temple.

Anna came to stand by the baby Jesus.

Like Simeon, she saw much more than a child six  
weeks old.

They both saw Jesus as the Son of God. God had  
come so close to man that He now lay as a child in

the arms of His mother.

Anna began to sing too. She sang about this great wonder.

From then on she told everyone she met that the Redeemer had come.

All who looked forward to the coming of the Redeemer found rich comfort in this joyful message.

The finely clothed priests and the strict Pharisees were not among them.

They had a different kind of Messiah in mind. They were not interested in a humble Messiah who came to earth as a child.

God told us He was coming because He had a plan.

He was going to save man from his sins. Why?

Because He loves us. John 3:16 tells us: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

So God sent His son for you and me and for all of the people that are alive now and that were alive during the time of Simeon and Anna and everyone in between.

## Prophecies – Simeon and Anna

Long before Jesus was born, many men; over many years, prophesied about His coming. In fact, prophets told many details about His birth HUNDREDS of years before he was even born. Imagine someone speaking about YOUR birth long before the birth of your own mother. In fact, there were over 300 prophecies made about Jesus' birth and life before He was even conceived in His mother's womb. These prophecies were told so that the Israelites would expect and recognize Jesus when He came. In Genesis 3:15 we read that the Savior would be "born of a woman". In Isaiah 7:14 we learn that the Savior was to be "born of a virgin". In Psalm 2:7 we read that the Savior would be the "son of God". In Genesis 22:18, we read that the Savior would be "descended from Abraham" Which means that he would be a relative of Abraham's. In Genesis 21:12 we read that the Savior would be a "descendant of Isaac". In Numbers 24:17 we read that the Savior would be a "descendant of Jacob". In Genesis 49:10 we read that the Savior would be from the "tribe of Judah". In Isaiah 11:1, we read that the Savior would be from the "family of Jesse". And in Jeremiah, we read that the Savior would be from the house of David. In Micah 5:2, we read that the Savior would be born in Bethlehem. In Psalm 72:10, we read that the Savior would be presented with gifts. In Jeremiah 31:15, we read that the Savior would be threatened by Herod. In Isaiah 7:14, we read that the Savior would be both God and man. In Deuteronomy 18:18 we read that the Savior would be a Prophet. In Psalm 110:4 we read that the Savior would be a Priest. In Isaiah 33:22 we read that the Savior would be a Judge. In Psalm 2:6 we read that the Savior would be a King. In Malachi 3:1, we read that the Savior would be preceded by a messenger. (John the Baptist). In Isaiah 9:1 we read that the Savior would teach first in Galilee. In Isaiah 35: 5, 6 we read that the Savior would perform miracles. And these prophecies were just about the beginning of His life! If someone told you 300 facts about someone that you had never met before, do you think you would recognize him? Well, when Jesus was born, some people recognized Him when He came and many, many people did not. The wise men that brought presents knew He was the Messiah. The shepherds that visited the stable knew that He was the Messiah. His mother and father knew that He was the Messiah. John's parents knew that He was the Messiah. Even king Herod knew He had been born and tried to kill Him.

And there were two other people who knew that He was the Messiah. Their names were Simeon and Anna. Simeon was a priest; who's only desire was to see the Savior before his death. God himself had told Simeon that a Savior was coming. And Simeon had waited a long, long, long time to see the Savior. Anna was a widowed priestess who spent all of her time in the temple. She too had waited a long, long, long time for the Savior. And it is these two people, Simeon and Anna that we are going to learn about today. After Jesus was born, the days slipped by one by one. People went about their work as they always had. The sun rose in the morning and set in the evening. The shepherds continued to pasture their flocks in the fields around Bethlehem. Life continued its usual course, just as if nothing had happened. But Mary had a special child in her arms—the Redeemer of the world. Like any other child in those days, the baby was given a name on the eighth day—and *Mary and Joseph named their son; Jesus, which means savior.* Now many centuries before this time, when all of the first-born in Egypt were put to death, God had spared the first-born of the Israelites in the land of Goshen. So, from that time on, when a first-born son was born, their parents would take that child and "present" it to the Lord. In other words, he was dedicated to the Lord. So, on the fortieth day of his birth; because Jesus was their first-born, Mary and Joseph brought Him to Jerusalem; to the temple; which was two hours away from Bethlehem. This was the first time that Jesus was in Jerusalem, the city of the Great King. No one recognized Joseph and Mary as they walked through the streets, and no one recognized the royal child Mary carried in her arms. When Mary and Joseph and baby Jesus entered the temple, they offered the usual sacrifice for poor people. Rich people would offer a lamb; poor people would offer a pair of pigeons or turtle doves. Being poor, Mary and Joseph would have given a pair of pigeons or turtle doves. A priest approached them and unthinkingly laid his hands on the child.

He had blessed the Messiah without realizing it. Suddenly an old, gray man entered the temple with great haste. He hurried straight to Mary. *He* knew who the child was! Simeon knew because God had told him. Simeon's only great desire in life was for the Messiah, the one who would redeem his people. Long ago, at a time of great grief, God had revealed to Simeon that he would not die until he had seen the Savior. He told Simeon these things in order to comfort Simeon. Simeon had waited and waited for the Savior to be born. So long in fact that Simeon was now an old man. The dark shadow of death were creeping toward him. Simeon was living in dark times for the people of Israel. The people were oppressed by a powerful foe. But now the great day had finally come—the most beautiful day in Simeon's entire life. Mary offered the baby to Simeon. Reverently the old man took the child in his arms. Full of joy, he praised God. "Now I can die in peace," he cried out, "for my eyes have seen Your salvation, O Lord."

Indeed, Simeon need not fear death, for this child he held in his arms would conquer sin and death. Because the Redeemer had come, it didn't matter that Simeon lived in dark times. The Light of the world was finally beginning to shine. Simeon began to sing. He sang of the light, the great and beautiful light that descended from heaven to beam down not only upon Israel but upon all the nations. That light was Jesus.

As he sang, Simeon said that many would come to love this child and would receive happiness through Him. But there would be many others who would hate him. This child would cause some to fall and others to rise. Simeon had more things to say. His aged eyes saw far into the future. He knew that Mary's joy was greater than anyone else's joy. But he also knew that her *sorrow* would also be greater than anyone else's sorrow. Simeon knew that she would suffer intense pain, when Jesus was placed upon the cross and crucified. When Simeon fell silent, another voice was raised. This voice belonged to a little old, gray woman—the prophetess Anna. She was an 84-year-old widow who spent her time in the temple. Anna came to stand by the baby Jesus. Like Simeon, she saw much more than a child six weeks old. They both saw Jesus as the Son of God. God had come so close to man that He now lay as a child in the arms of His mother. Anna began to sing too. She sang about this great wonder. From then on she told everyone she met that the Redeemer had come. All who looked forward to the coming of the Redeemer found rich comfort in this joyful message. The finely clothed priests and the strict Pharisees were not among them. They had a different kind of Messiah in mind. They were not interested in a humble Messiah who came to earth as a child. God told us He was coming because He had a plan. He was going to save man from his sins. Why?

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## Prophecies – Simeon and Anna

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Over the last few weeks, we have been learning about the birth of Jesus.

Today, we are going to go back in time...many, many, many years before Jesus was born.

Now if we went back in time...many, many, many years before you were born...years before your mom and dad were born...years before your grandmother and your grandfather were born...way-way back even before your great grandparents or great-great grandparents were born...do you think that people would be know anything about you?

Do you think they would know where you were going to be born?

Or even who your parents would be?

Of course not!

However...long before Jesus was born, many prophets...over many years...prophesied about His coming.

Which means that they told others that...a savior...would be born.

Now, not only did they tell that a savior was to be born...they also gave lots and lots of details about His birth... HUNDREDS of years before he was even born.

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The shepherds that visited the stable knew that He was the Messiah.

His mother and earthly father knew that He was the Messiah.

Even king Herod knew that He had been born and tried to kill Him.

And there were two other people who knew that He was the Messiah as well.

Their names were Simeon and Anna.

Simeon was a priest...a very old priest...he had only one desire and that was to see the Savior before he died.

He had waited a long, long, long time to see the Savior...and still he waited.

He knew that he WOULD see the savior eventually...because God himself had told Simeon that he would...he just didn't know how long he would have to wait.

Anna was a widowed priestess who spent all of her time in the temple.

She too was very old...and she too had waited a long, long, long time for the Savior.

And it is these two people, Simeon and Anna that we are going to learn about today.

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But Mary had a special child in her arms —the Redeemer of the world.

Like any other child in those days, the baby was given a name on the eighth *day*—*and Mary and Joseph named their son; Jesus, which means savior.*

Now many centuries before this time, all of the first-born babies in Egypt were put to death because Pharaoh had refused to let God's people go...however, God had spared the first-born of the Israelites.

So, from that time on, when a first-born son was born, their parents would take that child and "present" it...or dedicate it to the Lord.

So, on the fortieth day of his birth; because Jesus was their firstborn, Mary and Joseph brought Him to Jerusalem; to the temple; which was two hours away from Bethlehem.

This was the first time that Jesus was in Jerusalem, the city of the Great King.

No one recognized Joseph and Mary as they walked through the streets, and no one recognized the royal child Mary carried in her arms.

When Mary and Joseph and baby Jesus entered the temple, they offered the usual sacrifice...which would have been a pair of pigeons or turtle doves...because Mary and Joseph were not wealthy people.

If they had been wealthy, they would have been required to offer a lamb however they were not wealthy.

Soon afterwards, a priest approached them.....stretching out his hand, he touched baby Jesus and blessed Him...never realizing that the Messiah was right there in front of Him.

Suddenly an old, gray man entered the temple with great haste. He hurried straight to Mary. *He* knew who the child was! Simeon knew because God had told him.

Simeon's only great desire in life was for the Messiah, the one who would redeem his people.

Long ago, at a time of great grief, God had revealed to Simeon that he would not die until he had seen the Savior. He told Simeon these things in order to comfort Simeon.

Simeon had waited and waited for the Savior to be born.

So long in fact that Simeon was now an old man. Death was drawing near for Simeon.

But now the great day had finally come—the most beautiful day in Simeon's entire life.

Mary offered the baby to Simeon.

Reverently the old man took the child in his arms.

Full of joy, he praised God. "Now I can die in peace," he cried out, "for my eyes have seen Your salvation, O Lord."

Because of Jesus...the Great Redeemer...The Light of the world...Simeon did not have to fear the dark times in which he lived.

Simeon's heart was filled with joy...so much joy...that he began to sing.

He sang of the light, the great and beautiful light that descended from heaven to beam down not only upon Israel but upon all the nations.

That light was Jesus.

As he sang, Simeon said that many would come to love this child and would receive happiness through Him.

But there would be many others who would hate him. This child would cause some to fall and others to rise.

Even though Simeon's eyes were aged, he could see far into the future...because God revealed special things to him.

He knew that Mary's joy was greater than anyone else's joy.

But he also knew that her *sorrow* would also be greater than anyone else's sorrow.

Simeon knew that she would suffer intense pain, when Jesus was placed upon the cross and crucified.

After Simeon finished talking, a little old, gray woman—the prophetess Anna entered the room.

She was an 84-year-old widow who spent her time in the temple.

Anna came to stand by the baby Jesus.

Like Simeon, she saw much more than a child six weeks old.

They both saw Jesus as the Son of God.

God had come so close to man that He now lay as a child in the arms of His mother.

Anna began to sing too. She sang about this great wonder.

From then on she told everyone she met that the Redeemer had come.

Why do you think Anna called Jesus the Redeemer?

Because He came to earth to become a sacrifice for our sin...to redeem us.

Why would God do that? Why would He send His one and only son to die for our sins?

Because He loves us.

John 3:16 tells us: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

So God sent His son for you and me and for all of the people that are alive now...for all the people who will be born in the future...for all the people who were alive during the time of Simeon and Anna and for everyone in between.

# SIMEON AND ANNA

(LUKE 2:25-38)



# SIMEON AND ANNA

(LUKE 2:25-38)

J M A L A W J O W Y K D A P Y  
E U A N S W U W F O N V U F N  
R S N R N U S A V M D C T S O  
U S T T Y A T E I Z M I E G E  
S F T I R I P S Y L O H W N M  
A J Q B A I B P F S O U L I I  
L S C K G K I S R A E L K T S  
E G D I Q E T T U O V E D S S  
M S U S E J D L I H C P O A K  
Y R Y J F T S I R H C R O F T  
Y A D E L E V R A M C A D D E  
R T E M P L E Q R U D Y R H F  
P R O P H E T E S S N E O D Y  
T S R E H Y I T N I Y R W F R  
E F Q F H P E S O J J U S W N

ANNA  
CHILD JESUS  
CHRIST  
DEVOUT  
FASTINGS  
HOLY SPIRIT  
ISRAEL

JERUSALEM  
JOSEPH  
JUST  
LAW  
MARY  
MARVELED  
PRAYER

PROPHETESS  
SIMEON  
SOUL  
SWORD  
TEMPLE  
WIDOW