



LUKE PRESENTS

THE GREATEST HITS
OF CHRISTMAS

THIS WEEK:

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD

SIMEON'S SONG

“Let him who would enjoy a good future waste none of his present.”

Roger Babson

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD

SIMEON'S BAND

WHO WAS SIMEON?

- Name means “to hear and obey”
- Known as “A Quiet One of Israel”
- Dedicated to the ways of God (Luke 2:25)
- Led by the Spirit of God (Luke 2:27)

“Nunc Demitis”-“now dismiss thy servant.”

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD
SIMEON'S BAND

WHAT WAS HIS SONG ABOUT?

1. Song of Faithfulness (vs. 21-23)

“On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise him, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he had been conceived.

When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord“)

*"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you now dismiss your servant in peace."*

(Vs 29)

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD

SIMEON'S BAND

WHAT WAS HIS SONG ABOUT?

2. Song of Hope (vs. 31-32)

*“...which you have prepared
in the sight of all people,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people
Israel.”*

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD

SIMEON'S BAND

“We've been given a glimpse of the real thing, our true home, our resurrection bodies! The Spirit of God whets our appetite by giving us a taste of what's ahead. He puts a little of heaven in our hearts so that we'll never settle for less.”

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD
SIMEON'S BAND

That's why we live with such good cheer. You won't see us drooping our heads or dragging our feet! Cramped conditions here don't get us down. They only remind us of the spacious living conditions ahead. It's what we trust in but don't yet see that keeps us going. Do you suppose a few ruts in the road or rocks in the path are going to stop us? When the time comes, we'll be plenty ready to exchange exile for homecoming.

II Cor. 5:1-8 MSG

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD

SIMEON'S BAND

WHAT WAS HIS SONG ABOUT?

3. Song of Reconciliation (vs. 32)

- For Gentiles Jesus is a *revelation*.

“it seemed good also to me to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught” ~Luke 1:3-4

- For Israel, God's people, Jesus is *glory*

*“For I am ready to set things right,
not in the distant future, but right
now!”*

*I am ready to save Jerusalem
and show my glory to Israel.”*

Isaiah 46:13

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD

SIMEON'S BAND

WHAT WAS HIS SONG ABOUT?

4. Song calling for Decision (vs. 34-35)

“Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD

SIMEON'S BAND

- The life of this great servant challenges us to ask a significant question:

- *What are you living for?*

- *Will it satisfy?*

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD

SIMEON'S BAND

WHAT DO WE DO WITH SIMEONS SONG?

3 Action Steps:

- **Rejoice!**
 - We discover the devotion that makes obedience a delight, not a duty.
 - The demands of discipleship become joyful expressions of devotion.

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD
SIMEON'S BAND

WHAT DO WE DO WITH SIMEONS SONG?

3 Action Steps:

- **Regain Hope!**
 - A different perspective:
“Sovereign Lord, this has happened according to your word.”
 - God has a plan that makes
 - the impossible possible,
 - the absurd normal,
 - and the humble exalted.

WHAT DO WE DO WITH SIMEONS SONG?

3 Action Steps:

- Respond to the Truth
 - σωτήριος “soterion” meaning “he who embodies this salvation, or through whom God is about to achieve it”
 - *“For my eyes have seen your salvation...”*
 - Everything rises and falls upon Jesus

*“Anyone who hears **My** word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life and will not come under judgment, but has passed from death to life.”*

John 5:24

“Anyone who does not believe is already judged because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”

John 3:18

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD

SIMEON'S BAND

As it is written:

"See, I lay in Zion a stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall, and the one who trusts in Him will never be put to shame."

Romans 9:33

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD

SIMEON'S BAND

DETOURS: SOMETIMES ROUGH ROADS LEAD TO RIGHT PLACES

- In the end, he simply had to wait patiently until one who was much bigger—one who could peer into his world—could carry him safely to that larger world where he really belonged.

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD
SIMEON'S BAND

FINAL THOUGHT:

Live like Simeon: eyes out for Jesus, heart on God, one foot in front of another on the long and winding road of life until you reach your forever home with Christ.

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD
SIMEON'S BAND