



CHRISTMAS 2023 – MESSAGE AND GREETINGS HCF AUSTRALIA

The year 2023 is coming to an end. The way the common calendar works it ends with nations celebrating the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The birth that was predicted in Genesis. Then confirmed through the prophecy in Isaiah. The events around the birth itself are recorded in the Gospels. The remaining expectation of the believer in Revelation of his imminent return soon.

The surprise foretelling by angel Gabriel to Mary. The awe and wonder of the shepherds. The search for the King by the Magi. Herod his fear and massacre of all the innocent children under 2 years of age.

Let me share some thoughts from Luke 2:21- 35 (NLT) this Christmas. An event that happened around 40 plus days after the birth of Jesus Christ.

Simeon now advanced in age.

A man in Jerusalem	Just like you and me. Ordinary man dedicated to the only true and extra ordinary GOD. Not in Bethlehem or Nazareth.
Righteous	This passage commends him as a deeply faithful man. The Greek text calls him dikaios, meaning "just, righteous, or virtuous." Also meant he lived by faith in God.
Devout	He is also associated with the word eulabēs, meaning "pious or reverent." He did what God required beyond human expectations of what it meant to be "religious."

Eager, Waiting, Messiah to come rescue Israel	Focused, acknowledged the hopeless situation of the Jews. Waiting for the consolation of the Jews.
The Holy Spirit was upon him.	He was led by the Holy Spirit.

Simeons's encounter with the Holy Spirit (vs 25b, 26, 27) and the outcome.

Holy Spirit gave a revelation from God.	He will not die until he had seen the Messiah.
Holy Spirit led him to the temple.	Appointed time. Jesus was in the temple too.
Holy Spirit gave him a prophetic message to Mary (and Joseph).	See the table below.

The good news and the hard* news. Prophecies do include both in the scriptures.

He is the salvation God had prepared for all people. (The Messiah)
He is the light to reveal God to the nations. (God in flesh)
He is the glory of the people Israel. (Isaiah 46:13 Messiah to be born in David's line)
This is great news of hope and joy. (Truth revealed)
*Jesus will cause many in Israel to fall. Many others to rise. Messiah in a manger. Law and the religion to Kingdom culture. Religious leaders to Disciples. Religion to relationship.
*Jesus has been sent as a sign from God. But many will oppose him. Accept Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins. Cross is a symbol of shame and victory. Embrace the cradle but reject the cross and make easy choices and compromises.
*Because of Jesus deepest thoughts of many will be revealed! Herod was jealous and fearful. Pharisees and their hypocrisy. The Rich Young Ruler. Honesty, integrity, commitment to the cause of Christ. A sifting of faith.
*Mary's own soul will be pierced by a sword. Vs 35 Witnessing her son being crucified. A heavy price Mary had to pay.

When is the last time you asked for the Spirit of God to lead you?

To lead you in the decisions you are making about work. To lead you as you are parenting your kids. To lead you as you work through struggles with your work colleagues, spouses, children, and fellow believers.

Simeon was led by the Spirit and it led him right to Christ. In Christ we have the perfect Christmas gift for all what we need.

And the truth is, one way to know if you are being led by the Spirit is if you are getting closer to Christ or are you further away? Because the Spirit will never lead you away from Jesus.

From Healthcare Christian Fellowship Australia, we thank the Lord for each one of you. Your love for the Lord, your love expressed through your life and words and action to those in need, the patients, and the colleagues. God saw it and He keeps an account of all what you did as your labour in love is not in vain.

For God is not unrighteous [not unjust] to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister (Hebrews 6:10). God does not overlook anything you do for Him.

There is hope in the cradle because there is hope in the cross!

There is hope in the stable, because as Simeon said, He was born the Saviour!

And there is hope this Christmas because there is hope in a risen Christ!

We wish you and your family and dear ones a blessed Christmas full of joy, peace, and happiness.

In Him,

Mithran Coomarasamy & Team

Healthcare Christian Fellowship Australia

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer” Romans 12:12



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