

**Title: Christmas for Older People      December 22, 2019**

**Text: Luke 2:25-38**

**Introduction:** Some people say that Christmas is for children. The older you get, they say, the more likely the wonder of things wears off and the simple playful pleasures are replaced with crass consumerism and outright greed. I love to watch eyes at Christmas. The wrappings, the gifts, the squeals of delight - these are great - but it's in the eyes. Children delight in it with wide eyes. Youth will lay aside demeanor that is "uncool" to be childlike if only briefly. Parents watch with anticipation of responses because of what they know is coming. And older people - well, they are most often grateful that they have another Christmas to celebrate and, hopefully, not alone. I have always been intrigued by the older people in the Christmas narrative, especially Simeon and Anna. They bring a gift to the story that is rare and enviable. Look at their hearts with me today.

**1. Simeon and Anna come with a P heart.  
*Luke 2:25;37.***

There is a heart of expectation not knowing when the serendipity of God will jump out at them.

Simeon is described as:

- *RIGHTEOUS*
- *DEVOUT*
- *WAITING FOR THE CONSOLATION OF ISRAEL*
- *ANOINTED*

Anna is described as a devout widow who:

- *never left the temple*
- *worshipped night and day*
- *fasted and prayer*

**2. Simeon and Anna come with a S heart.  
*Luke 2:26,27;38a.***

- Searching for fulfillment of a D P.  
"It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ." (Vs. 26)  
  
"Coming up to them at that very moment..."  
(Vs. 38 a)
- Searching for an answer for D D.  
"Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts." *Lk. 2:27 a*

**3. Simeon and Anna come with a T heart.  
*Luke 2:28-32,38b.***

- Thanking God for S (in the sight of all people) **30,31**
- Thanking God for L (for the Gentiles) **32 a**
- Thanking God for G (for His people Israel) **32 b**
- Thanking God for R (of Jerusalem). **38b**

**Conclusion:** You are never too old for use in God's kingdom! While the roles of Simeon and Anna were unique in the Christmas narrative, their attitudes of heart are timeless. Are you preparing your heart for use when God needs you? Are you searching for Him so you are tuned to His voice to speak when asked? Are you praising Him now for all He has done and is going to do? The gifts of Simeon and Anna are still needed today.

