

INSPIRED WORD
December 13, 2017

Teaching: Three Canticles of Christmas – (3) Song of Simeon – Luke 2:29-35

EXHORTATION

What a great love God has for us. When you see the story laid out like that and God's heart poured forth in such a way, you can only give Him praise and thanks.

TESTIMONY

PRAYER

O Lord, we praise You tonight for Your holiness. We praise You for Your glory. We praise You for Your creation and for the love and mercy You pour forth upon us. We praise You for Your presence in our lives in all circumstances. We praise You, Lord, as You send Your Holy Spirit upon us, here in this place. Jesus, we praise You that we are sons and daughters of the Father, sons and daughters of the Father and loved by Him. O Jesus, thank You for Your salvation. Lord, thank You, Jesus. Glory to You, glory to You, holy are You.

EXHORTATION / PRAYER

We have a great privilege to praise our loving God tonight, to stand in His holy presence and give Him that offering, that offering of praise, that offering of worship that He alone deserves. And in so doing, we become more of who He called us to be – a people loved by Him, sons and daughters of the Father, followers of the Lord Jesus, prophets to the nations, emissaries of love in the darkness, bringing the light, the truth, the hope, the salvation, the grace, the mercy, and the joy of the Lord Jesus Christ everywhere we go. That's who we are, that's who we're called to be. Holy Spirit, inflame us and give us the ability to say a new amen, a new heartfelt amen to our call tonight. Alleluia! Glory to You, O God. We love You, Lord.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 53: *Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness and when we see him there is no beauty that we should desire in him. He is despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and we hid our faces from him. He was despised and we did not esteem him. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our inequities; the chastisement for our peace was upon him and by his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray;*

we have turned each one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; he was led as a lamb to the slaughter, as a sheep before its shearer is silent, so he opened not his mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment, and who shall declare his generation for he was cut off from the land of the living, for the transgressions of my people he was stricken and they made his grave with the wicked, but with the rich at his death, because he had done no violence nor was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he has put him to grief; when you make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. He shall see the labor of his soul and be satisfied; by his knowledge, my righteous servant shall justify many, for he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out his soul unto death, and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. Lord, we just thank You and praise You and exalt Your holy name. For You alone are worthy. Worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lamb, worthy of all glory, worthy of all praise. We just praise You and thank You that You saw fit to come and carry away our transgressions, carry away our iniquities. We just thank You and exalt Your holy name, O Lord, for You alone are worthy, worthy of all honor and worthy of all glory and worthy of all praise. Magnify and glorify and exalt Your holy name, Lord. Holy, holy, holy is the Lamb, holy the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Worthy, worthy is He, worthy, worthy, worthy the Lamb of God.

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 16:1-2, 5-9, 11: *Preserve me, O God, for in thee I take refuge. I say to the Lord, "Thou are my Lord; I have no good apart from thee." The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; thou holdest my lot. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage. I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also dwells secure. Thou dost show me the path of life; in thy presence there is fullness of joy, in thy right hand are pleasures for evermore.*

PROPHECY / SENSE

My children, have you noticed the stars in the brilliant clear sky tonight and previous nights? Remember I said to Abraham, "Your descendents will be more numerous than stars. Can you count the stars, Abraham?" Our Father is saying to us that the Advent graces that He's pouring forth on each one of us right now are greater than the stars in the night sky.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:31, 35-39: *If God is for us then who can be against us? What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or the sword? As it is written, for your sake we are being slain all the day. We are looked upon as*

sheep to be slaughtered. No, in all these things, we conquer overwhelming through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, not any other creature, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

WORD OF KNOWLEDGE

Is there anyone here in this assembly that feels the need for hands-on prayer? I just feel a tingling in my hands so there may be someone here for that. If you feel like you need prayer right now, if you feel like you need people to lay hands on you, just raise your hand so we can see you. (A couple of hands were raised.)