**‘The Watch: Kingdom Joy for Waiting Hearts’  
Message #4 – ‘Kingdom Peace’**

**December 24th, 2017**

**Text: Luke 2:26-32**

Keith M. Doyle, Lead Pastor

Winnetka Bible Church

1. **Advent Series…The ‘Watch’**
   1. Hope…Love…Joy…Peace
   2. **Illus…Strife?**
   3. Context of Luke 2
      * The ‘world’ that Jesus was born into…not a peaceful place…‘Pax Romana’ - the New Testament world
      * Gal.4:4, ***‘…the fullness of time had come…God sent His Son’***

**Ques.** ***How do we experience God’s peace in the middle of strife?***

1. **Simeon’s Secret: To Experience True Peace We Must Pursue Jesus, 21-28 (*‘waiting for the consolation of Israel’*)** 
   1. **Luke 1 and 2**
   * John the Baptist – Christ’s forerunner and birth narrative
   * Two important events in Jesus’ life in the balance of the chapter

* Proclamation of Simeon and Anna
* 12 years later – Jesus in the temple
  + Harmonizing the Gospel accounts
  1. **The Ceremonies (21,23)**
  + Circumcision, 8th day (not at the temple, 21)
  + Presentation, 31 days (c/f Ex. 13:3,12; Num.18:16; 23)
  + Purification, 7 and 33 days (c/f Lev. 12; 2nd and 3rd happened together)
  1. **Simeon’s Secret (25-27)**
  + What do we know about Simeon?
    - ***‘Righteous and devout’*** (25)
    - ***‘Looking for the consolation of Israel’*** (25)– ***‘consolation’*** = comfort, encouragement, solace – he was looking for the messianic promises given to Abraham/Mosaic/Davidic covenants
    - Holy Spirit’s remarkable message – you are going to see Messiah! (26)
  + ***What did Simeon do?***
* Waiting…for what? (25) – ‘heightened’ by distressing circumstances
* ***‘And He came in the Spirit into the Temple…’*** (27)
* **Apply:** A good way to come…Spirit filled and seeking God

1. **Simeon’s Song: To Experience True Peace We Must Profess Jesus 29-32 (’...*your servant depart in peace…’* )**
   1. **Simeon’s Song**
   * A blessing and a prophecy, can you imagine His joy? (28)
   * Holding the Messiah...Simeon ‘blesses’ God
   * Complete Joy and trust in God’s promises, ***‘My eyes have seen your salvation…’*** (29,30) C/f Isa. 52:10; Isa.60:1-3; Ps.98:2,3
   * This salvation will be shared by many (31,32)
   1. **Stand Amazed with Simeon, Mary and Joseph (33)**
   * ***‘Marveled…’*** at what was said about Him (33)
   * **Apply:** Joining Simeon…

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