**‘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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