

Ensure fellowship with God through 1 John 1:9

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Luke 2:25-40

(25) And there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; and this man was **righteous** and **devout**...

- Simeon was **righteous** – he possessed the righteousness of God because he trusted in Jesus Christ as He was revealed in the Hebrew Scriptures.
- Furthermore, he followed the required protocol to live his life during the Age of Israel.

Remember those “walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord”.

Zacharias and Elizabeth
Joseph and Mary
Simeon

- Simeon also was **devout** – doing all that God wanted him to do. Scrupulous in executing the responsibilities of the spiritual life – number one priority in his life!
- A testimony to his devoutness was that he knew the Scriptures and the promises that they made of a Messiah, and he trusted in those promises.

...looking for the consolation of Israel...

“**Looking for**” - προσδέχομαι

PROSDECHOMAI – “To wait for with eager anticipation”

“**Consolation**” – παράκλησις

PARAKLESIS – “Comfort”

- Simeon was anticipating this deliverance when Messiah arrived.

Malachi 3:1

(1) "Behold, I am going to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight, behold, He is coming," says the LORD of hosts.

...and the **Holy Spirit was upon him.**

EIMI – “To be”

Continually upon him – a reference to the enduement of God the Holy Spirit.

(26) And it **had been revealed** to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's **Christ**.

“**Christ**” – Χριστός

CHRISTOS – Messiah – Anointed One

“**Revealed**” - χρηματίζω

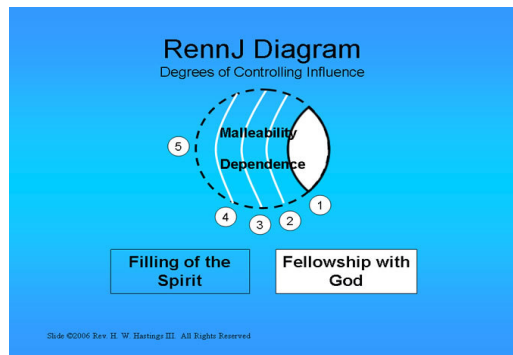
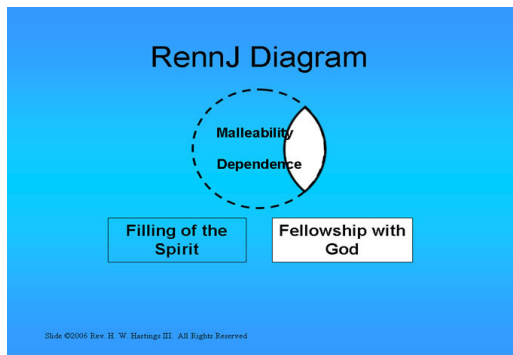
CHREMATIZO – ref to “*special revelation*”.

- **Special Revelation** - that “*he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ.*”
- Revealed by the Holy Spirit directly
- Special Revelation – Requires an agent (God the Holy Spirit).
- God’s communication to man what man would not otherwise know through nature and conscience.
- **Natural revelation** – What God reveals through nature and conscience. “The heavens declare the glory of God”

It is of paramount importance for the Christian to develop a dependence upon the Holy Spirit to guide and teach him in the Word of God.

Many people in this day and age study the Bible – they are very academically sound in what they know; very theological in their understanding, BUT a believer can only go so far spiritually apart from dependence on what the Holy Spirit was sent to do.

POD: When the Christian resides in fellowship with malleability and dependence, God the Holy Spirit is at liberty to fulfill all that He took up permanent residence in his life to do.



God the Holy Spirit performs His mentorship functions – from within!

(27) And he (Simeon) **came** in the Spirit into the temple...

“**Came**” - ἐρχομαι

ERCHOMAI – “*To come*”

“**By means of the Spirit**” – God the Holy Spirit was the one leading Simeon to the temple. Simeon was functioning on positive volition toward the enduement of God the Holy Spirit. He is not resisting what God the Holy Spirit is doing with him.

In Simeon’s case the Holy Spirit is “upon him” – leading him from without.

POD – The CAB who has learned the Spirit’s ways with him (able to discern the Holy Spirit leading in your life) **and is functioning in the RennJ diagram** - on positive signals of malleability and dependence – **will arrive at the right place at the right time to do what God has planned for him to do.**

...and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law,

Remember – “**Custom of the Law**” refers to the presentation to the priest. Symbolizes that God owns that child! The 1st born child had to be purchased back or redeemed.

The priest will then announced two blessings as he holds the child:

- Thanksgiving for the Law of Redemption.
- Blessing of having a 1st born son.

Once that blessing is pronounced Mary and Joseph will pay the five shekels of silver and the priest will present the child back to the parents. Symbolic of having redeemed their baby from God’s possession.

Redemption is a price that is paid.

At salvation – when you trusted in Jesus Christ as your own personal savior – You are redeemed or purchased with a price. The price of Christ dying on the cross.

That is the payment required to purchase you from the possession or hold of another (Sin).

Man is born in slavery to the slave market of sin.

Purchased from the slave market with the price that Jesus Christ paid.

(28) then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said,

(29) "Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, According to Your word;

(30) For my eyes have seen Your salvation,

“**Salvation**” - σωτήριον

SOTERIOS – “*Salvation or deliverance*”

POD – When the CAB functions in the RennJ diagram – malleable and sensitive to the Spirit’s mentorship responsibilities – God blesses him with invaluable experiences.

Our function in the RennJ diagram with malleability and dependence is tantamount to Simeon functioning on positive signals, “walking blamelessly in all the commandments and regulations of the Lord”. Doing what God wanted him to do!

Simeon was **righteous, devout** and the **Holy Spirit was upon him**.

We are righteous – possessing +R at salvation.
Descriptively if doing what God wants us to do.
We are devout – Bible Doctrine is our #1 priority.
Fulfilling the responsibilities of our CABP by means of the filling of the Holy Spirit.

Is Simeon’s experience of *holding Israel’s salvation* something that money could buy? NO

There are things you, as a church age believer, will experience because you are doing the will of God that money cannot buy!

There is a depth and a texture to a life of doing what God wants you to do that most Christian’s will never experience.

(31) Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
(32) A LIGHT OF REVELATION TO THE GENTILES...

Israel has been faithless in their ambassador responsibilities; Gentiles need to be illuminated and Messiah is now going to do it Himself.

What does a light do? It illuminates darkness. Who has been in the dark because of Israel’s faithlessness in representing God to a lost and dying world? GENTILES.

- Has this prophecy been fulfilled to you?
- Has Jesus Christ been a light of revelation to you?
- He has if you have trusted in Him as personal Savior.

...and the glory of Your people Israel."

- Experienced when the Jews are gathered by Messiah and enter the kingdom that He will rule from David’s throne.

(33) And His father and mother were amazed at the things which were being said about Him.

(34) And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is appointed for the fall and rise of many in Israel..."

- Those with positive volition to the revelation of Messiah will accept Him and rise.
- Those with negative volition will reject Him and fall as He will be a stumbling stone for many.

...and for a sign to be **opposed**—

“**Opposed**” - ἀντίλεγω

ANTILEGO – “To be spoken against or refused”

Jesus will actually be spoken against and refused by the Nation as her promised Messiah.

(35) and a **sword** will pierce (run through) even your own soul...

“Sword” - ῥομφαία

HROMPHAIA – “A Thracian broad sword”

--to the end that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

Mary is storing all these things up in her soul. Knowing that her son will be spoken against and rejected by the nation, Mary did not go on the defensive posture of protecting her child.

Mary was committed to doing the will of God – whatever that will was.

Sometimes the plan of God is a tough line to walk but remember that God is going to provide everything needed to walk that line.

All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.