



Edward Pola

New Series

Christmas

The Most

FULL OF WONDER

Time of Year



FULL of WONDER =

To stand amazed, to marvel, to be
astonished!

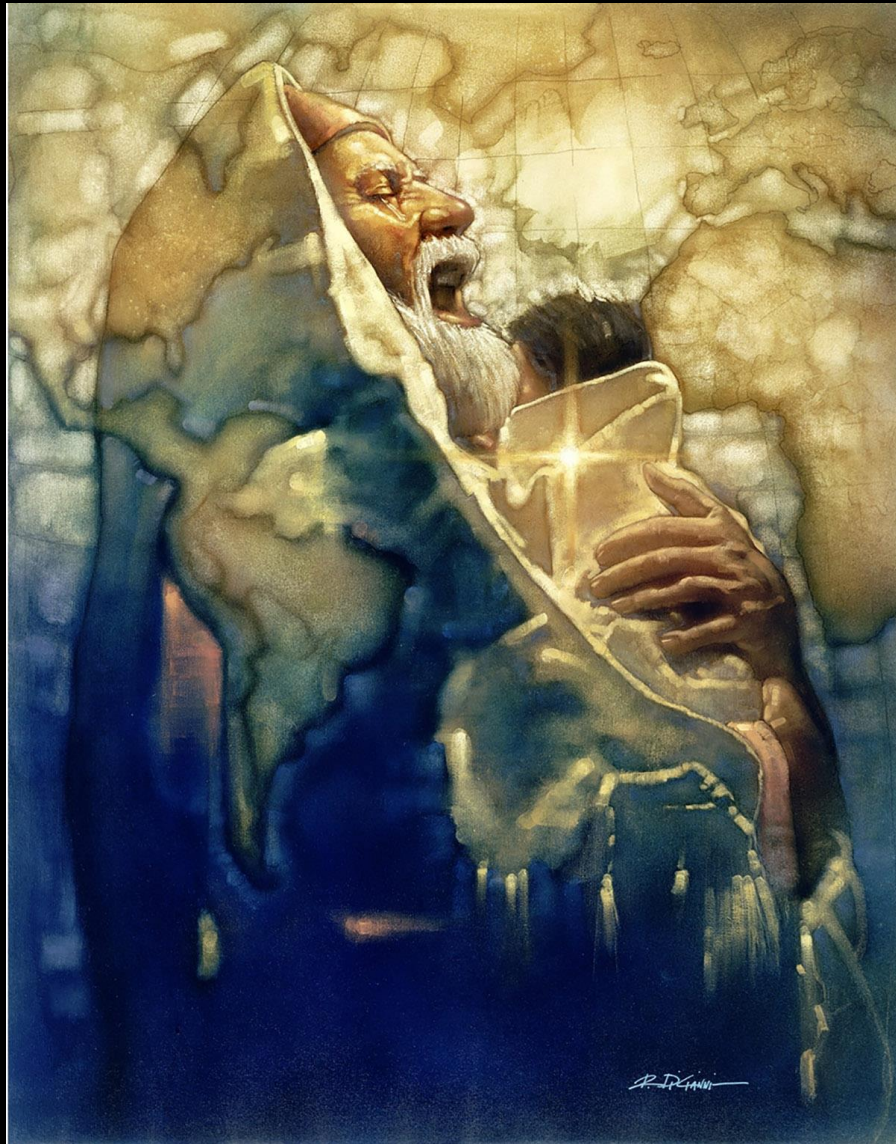
The Good News is this:

The coming of Jesus was never meant to be only a “wonderful time of year.”

Instead, His coming is to be *personally experienced* as the most “FULL of WONDER” event in human history!



*“The child’s father and mother **marveled** at what was said about him.”* Luke 2:33



Simeon

Simeon's message:

*How to be in tune with
God when many are not.*



Why is this important?

When your life is in tune with God...

You are at peace when life is at a hectic pace.

You are at peace when your life is in a lonely place.

You are at peace when life is in a fearful state.

*Is your life **in tune** with
what God's up to in the world?*

*Do **you want** your life **in tune** with
what God's up to in the world?*

Luke 2:22-35

*Luke's **historical** message from the text.*

*Luke **timeless** message from the man – Simeon.*

Luke's historical message:

*“I, too, decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent **Theophilus**, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.”*

Luke 1:3-4

Luke's historical message:

*Christianity is **built on** and is the **fulfillment of** God's work in the Old Testament.*

Luke's historical message:

*The coming of Christ means **the end** of many of the old religious ways. Those in tune with God **rejoiced** in this; those 'out of tune' were scared and angry.*



Anna



Elizabeth

Zechariah

“With Jesus comes a new way and message to the Jewish people and the world. Jesus did not come to abolish the law and the prophets but to fulfill them through the offer of his very own life as a sacrifice. Therefore, all true saints of the O.T. faith will welcome Jesus with open arms as he fits perfectly as the goal of their faith. But hypocrites, Luke says, will reject him and eventually persecute him.”

John Piper

Luke's historical message:

*Christianity is the perfect
balance of 'keeping the Law of
the Lord' by the empowering
of the Holy Spirit.*



WORD ONLY

Results in a
dull rationalism

WORD and
SPIRIT
TOGETHER

SPIRIT ONLY

Results in a
confused
emotionalism

*“We need the sharp-edged, absolute character of the Word and the intuitive, personal leading of the Spirit. **The Word provides structure, the Spirit personalizes it and empowers us.** The Word and the Spirit keep our lives from simply God talk.”*

Paul E. Miller

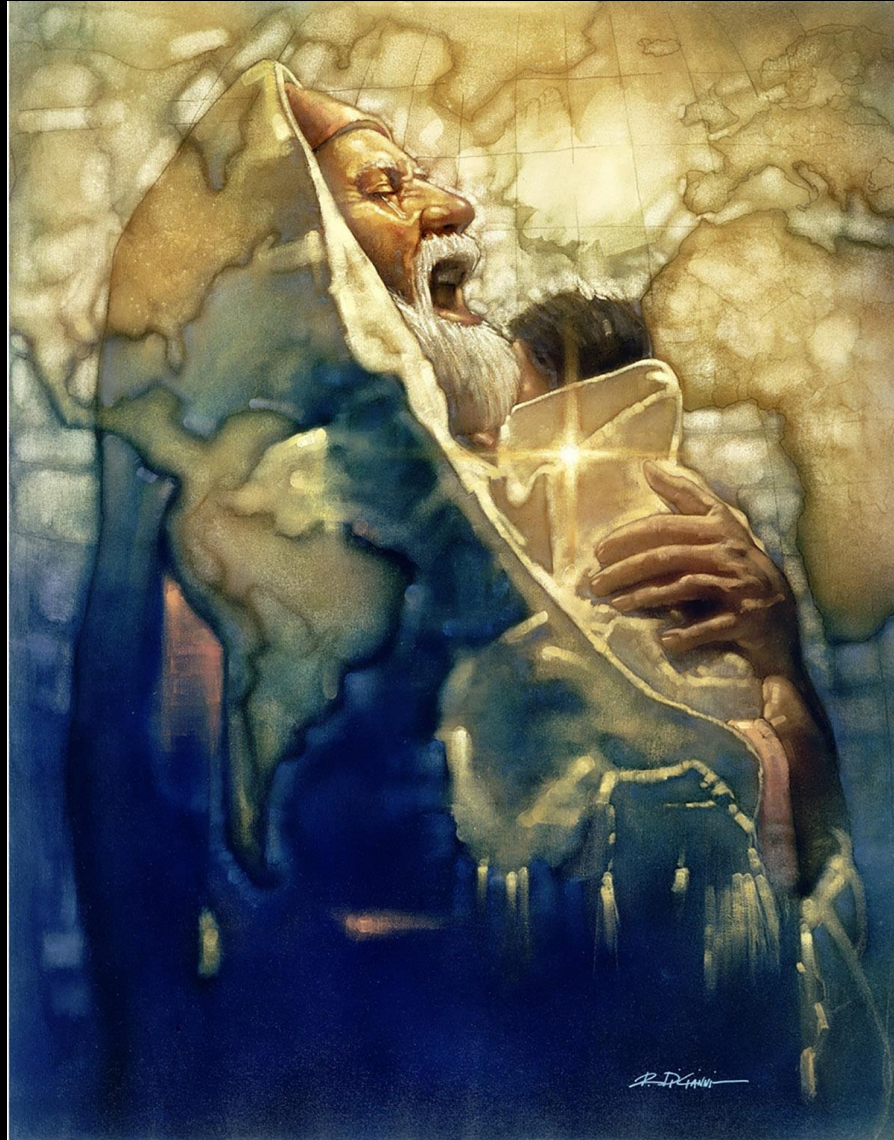


Tiger Woods

*“The foundational lie that Tiger Woods believed was not that he wouldn’t get caught, but it is was he lie he could find the **happiness** and **fulfillment** he longed for outside of the prescribed boundaries set by God.”*

Ravi Z.

Simeon's timeless message:



Simeon's timeless message:

Description:

God is more concerned with our inner life than our outer look.

Devote =

Strength of moral character that is rooted in relational anticipation.

"Look, **I am coming soon!** Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll."

Rev. 22:7

When you're preparing to meet a person, your priorities change and you are empowered to change.

Simeon's timeless message:

Proclamation:

Salvation is not based on what you do, but who you know.

“I am the way, the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father except through me.”

John 14:6

Ron Tubbs
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Simeon's timeless message:

Prediction:

*The cross Jesus endures will
reveal hearts of men and women.*

Because of his claims as Messiah there can never be neutrality when it comes to the person of Jesus.

“Around the cross everyone in the Biblical story is **strangely exposed**. Disciples believe, then in fear they run away. Peter makes bold promises but then falls into denial. The priest killed an innocent man to preserve control of temple power. Pilate wanted to keep his job and stay out of trouble. **The thoughts of the hearts of many were revealed by the suffering of the cross, and only** Mary participated in Christ’s suffering.”

Kenneth E. Bailey

Simeon's timeless message:

Question:

When it comes to 'carrying your cross' how are you responding?

Our 'cross' is any struggle or difficulty that might come to our life because we have chosen to follow Jesus.

For whoever wants to save their life **will lose it**, but whoever loses their life for me **will find it**.

Luke 9: 24



*What adjustment need to be made to get **back in tune** with God?*