

**I see the Holy Spirit say,
“Simeon, stand up.” You
believe in being led by the
Spirit?**

**I can see Simeon stand
up and say, “Yes, Lord.”**

“All right, start walking.”

**Here he goes. “Obedience
is better than sacrifice.”**

**Starts walking out, he don't
know where he's going, just
the way the Holy Spirit
leads him.**

WILLIAM MARRION BRANHAM



Message: **53-0607E - A**
Testimony

9 I think of Simeon, back there in the temple: old man, an old sage, had been told by the Holy Spirit that he wasn't going to see death until he seen the Lord's Christ. Luke the 2nd chapter, you read the article. And he wasn't afraid to go around, tell the people that he was going to see the Christ, because the Holy Spirit

told him so. So there's no two Holy Spirits; there's only one. So the same Holy Spirit that was with Simeon, is the same Holy Spirit here tonight.



So now watch, an old man eighty or better years old, old sage, long white hair and beard, very renowned among the people, a teacher, a master in Israel, had to be blameless as touching the law... And the Holy Spirit told him that he wasn't going to see death until he seen the Lord's Christ, so he went around testifying to everybody that he wasn't going to die before he saw Christ. Could you imagine what the church

people of that day thought about him? Why, they thought the old fellow was a little mentally obsessed. But he had a good reason to testify that, because the Holy Ghost said he was so. What the Holy Spirit says, it's the truth.

So he kept on testifying. God has always had a little remnant of people somewhere who would believe Him. Sometime it's got down to one man: the days of Noah. And sometimes real low, but He's

always had somebody who would believe Him, who He could trust and put His hand on, say, "This is My man." See? Always had a remnant on the earth. And then He had a few at that time.

10 So in the days when Jesus was born, they didn't have press, and so forth, like we have today, and radio, and television. News just come merely from lip to ear. And when Jesus was born, some magis was watching for the Star of Jacob to rise, so they

followed it over from the
Orient and worshipped Him
out on the hillside—or in the
Bethlehem manger, rather, as
a young child. Not a little
infant like Christian tradition
has it, it was a young Child:
baby's two years old. Herod
went to immediately killing
children from two years old
down. Why'd he kill them from
two years old if it's just a little
new suckling baby a few
hours old? See? Strange how
people can get things mixed
up, isn't it? See?



He was a young Child. A young child's not an infant: a young child. He was two years old. So the magis come from the Orient, following a star that led them to the Child. The shepherds was on the hill, a bunch of peasants out there, herding the sheep, not on the 25th day of December. That's Catholicism. Along in April, 25th day of December, it's as cold as it is in Indiana on Judaea. So they wasn't laying out there on a hill in that snow watching sheep.



So that's just something they set up so they taken on that way. But He wasn't born on December the 25th. You ought to go to over there one time and see how they laugh at that.

11 Now. But however, when the shepherds heard the voice of the angel and the singing, they went into Jerusalem and told what—or down into Bethlehem and told the sights they'd seen and they met the Christ. Well now,

of a Jewish law, every eight days the mother of the child has to come and offer a sacrifice for the, her cleansing, purification, and for the circumcision of the child.

Now, let's give just a little drama here before we get ready for the line. Let's set up the picture now. Something's been noised about, way down in Judaea there, about a star, some fellows coming in, about a star appearing. I hear them talking on the street, saying,

“You know that bunch of fanatics that believe in that?”
See? But it was so.

12 And then here's an old man. Let's see—let's say it's Monday morning. And here's the people all standing in this building for worship. Thousands of Jews in the land in those days, many of them was up in there for taxation. And there's probably two or three million Jews in the land in that day, so there'd probably be as many as fifty

or a hundred babies born every day from the Jews. Well, that meant every day standing in the line for purification and circumcision of the child, would be at least fifty mothers standing with their sacrifices for the purification of child.

Let's say it's Monday morning. Here stands a long string of people, many thousands swarming in and out the temple. And along the row, here's a woman holding

a little chain; she's got a lamb on it; she's a rich woman; she's dressed in fine laces and silks, holding her little baby here, all wrapped up real nice. And the neighbor woman who goes to the same church she does, they're talking about the baby and how lovely it is, and exchanging remarks.

13 Let's look along the line. But way down there I see a little girl standing, about eighteen, nineteen years old with a veil over her face,

holding two turtledoves: a peasant's offering, poor man.



And she's got a baby in her arm. And some of them says, "Say, that's that Mary; that—

that's that illegitimate child there. See? She says... She's not even married to that Joseph there and she's got this baby before he was born. Don't stand near her. Get in back."

Just reminds me of the chaste church, today. "Stand back, get away from them." See? "Standing back, give them room."

But look in that mother's arms. That Baby's not wrapped in fine linen. The

Baby's wrapped in swaddling's cloth. You know what swaddling's cloth is? What they told me there was what the—a ox plows with, and the—the yoke rubs him on the neck. They just wrap that cloth around there; that's called swaddling cloth. And in the manger, they didn't have nothing to wrap the Baby in, so they just unwrapped this old swaddling's cloth (It was hanging on a peg or

something.) and wrapped the Child in it.

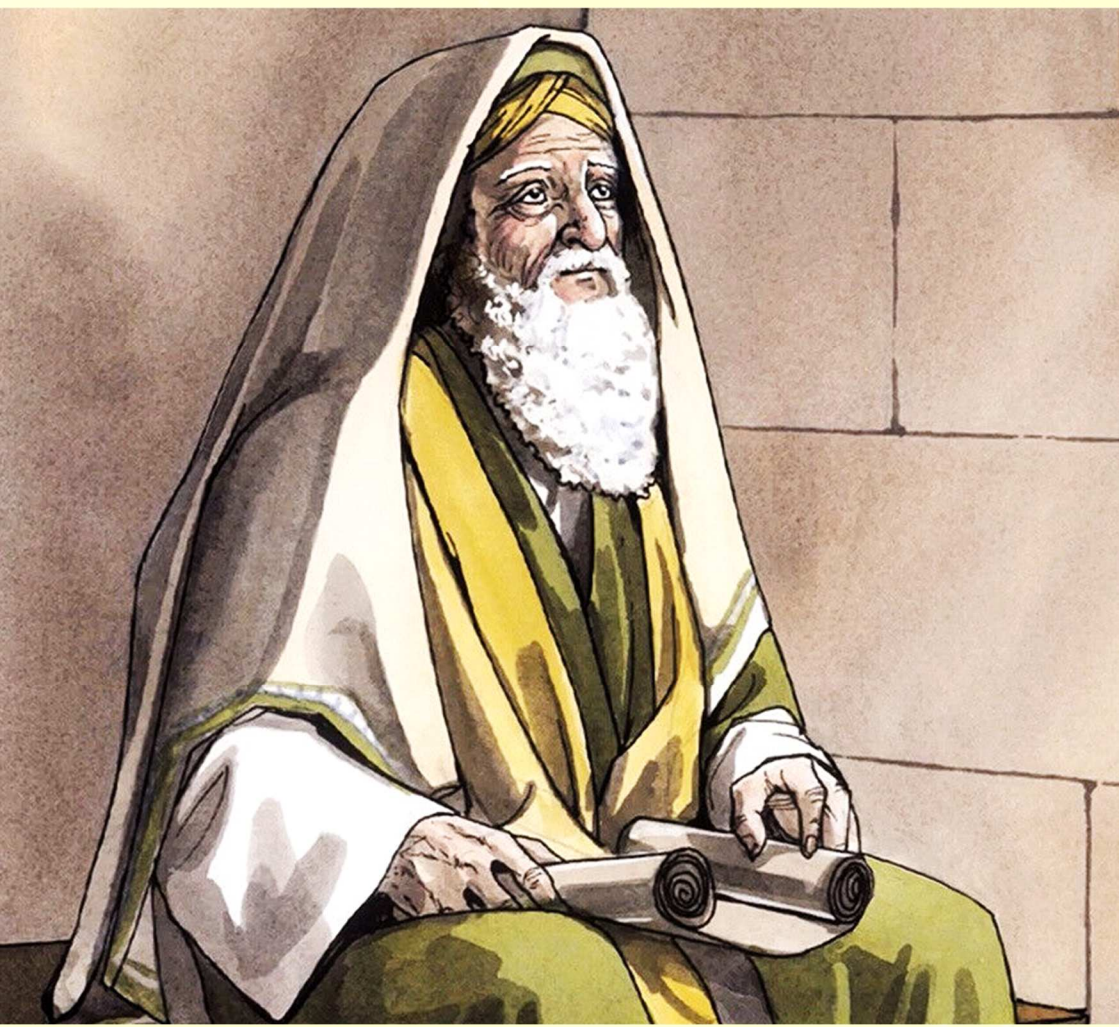
Think of it: some of we people, the way we dress and act and carry on, and the very Saviour of Heaven with a rag wrapped around Him.

14 She was holding her Baby. In her little innocent heart she knew Who that Baby belonged to, no matter what anybody else said, she knew Whose it was. And every man tonight hold's that Baby in his heart, they know

what they are, no matter what the rest of the world said.

The people stayed back. And there she's holding the little Baby, wrapped in swaddling's cloth: the Redeemer of the world, the very God of Heaven made flesh among us, wrapped in swaddling's cloth. She was rocking the little Fellow in her arms and playing with Him. She knew in her heart that God gave her that Baby by the Holy Spirit.

They moved up a little farther and the priest called another one. They moved up, like standing in a prayer line.



15 Let's look over there in a prayer room, about a half a block away. I see an old preacher by the name of Simeon, setting there reading the Scriptures, "All we like sheep have gone astray. The Lord has laid upon Him the iniquity of us all." And about that time, if God had give Him the promise by the Holy Ghost that he wasn't going to die until he seen the Christ, when the Christ appeared, was time for God to call him. **I see the**

Holy Spirit say, “Simeon, stand up.” You believe in being led by the Spirit?

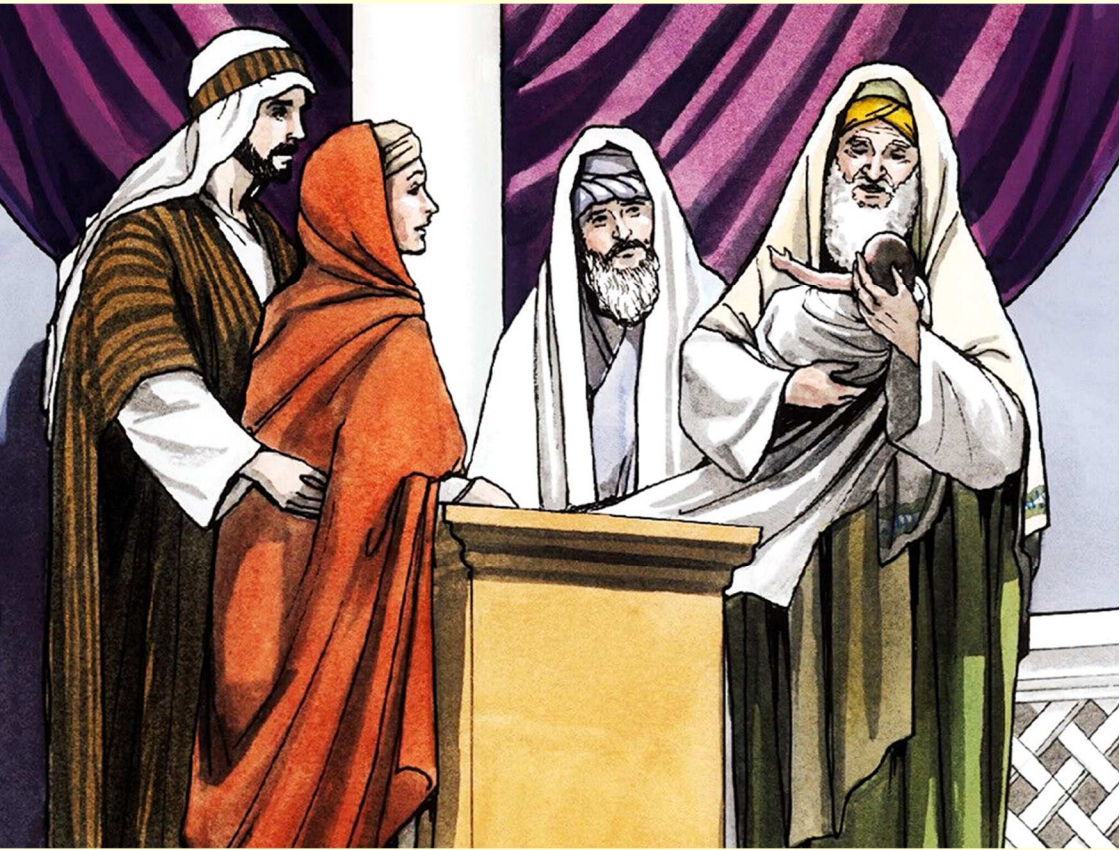
I can see Simeon stand up and say, “Yes, Lord.”

“All right, start walking.” Here he goes. “Obedience is better than sacrifice.” Starts walking out, he don’t know where he’s going, just the way the Holy Spirit leads him. Here he comes out through the temple, down around the mobs of people.



First thing you know he comes to that long line of them babies. Here he comes walking, led by the Holy Spirit. My, come right on down and stopped before this little woman that had this little

disgraced Baby, as they
thought.



Picked the little Fellow in
his arms, the tears running

down his white beard, he said, "Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace according to Thy Word, for my eyes have seen Your Salvation." What was the matter? He was expecting to see Christ, 'cause the Holy Spirit told him he'd see Christ.

16 You usually get just what you're expecting. You come to the meeting to criticize, the devil will show you plenty to criticize. If you come to a meeting to be

blessed, God will give you a blessing. Whatever you expect, that's what you're going to find. Simeon was expecting to see the Lord. And God led him right to it, just at the same time.

Listen. When the deep calls to the deep, there's got to be a deep to respond to it. That's right. If there's something in here, a creation in here, before that creation can be there, a Creator has to create that creation.



As I've said many times, before a fin was on a fish's back, there had to be a water for him to swim in or he wouldn't have no fin. And if there's something in here

~ 30 ~

calling out for more of God,
there's got to be more of God
out yonder to respond to it.

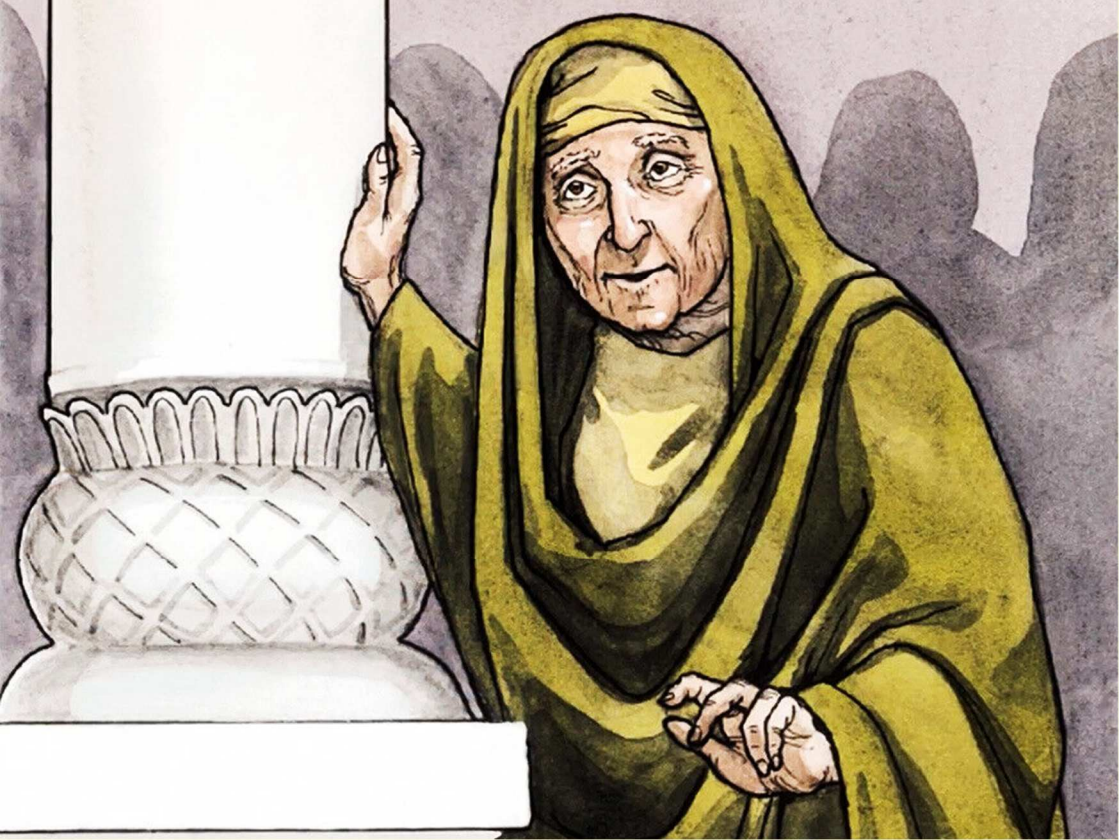


How many of you here believe in Divine healing? Why, brother, if it wasn't even written in the Bible, it'd have to be something to it. If there's something in here calling out for Divine healing, there's a fountain open somewhere.



17 Look. Let's take another picture. Oh, I don't want to get started here. I see another picture. Just a moment. Look way over there in a corner, an old blind prophetess by the name of Ann. She didn't leave the temple day and night, but she set there serving the Lord, praying. She was looking for the deliverance of Israel. All right. Watch. Amen. Oh, I love this.

The Holy Spirit said, "Stand up, Ann."



She was blind, we're told. Here comes that old blind prophetess, down through that building, weaving amongst the people. Blind, led by the Holy Spirit, came right straight to where Christ was in her arms

of the mother, and raised up her hands, and blessed God. She was expecting to see Him. Yet blind, the Holy Spirit led her.



The same Holy Spirit that led Simeon and Ann, is the same Holy Spirit that's led you here tonight, for you believe the Bible teaches Divine healing. You believe the Bible teaches Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever. And that same Jesus that led them, the same Spirit, is the Spirit that's led you here tonight. And I know that He's here. Believe Him.

Now, if you're here, God led you here. The Holy Spirit

that led Simeon, led you here. And if you're here sick tonight, believe Him. He's brought you to the fountain. He promised Divine healing. The Bible teaches that: "Whosoever will, let him come." Now, you're here. Reminds me just... I've got about eight minutes.

53-0607E - A Testimony
Rev. William Marrion Branham
