

# Simeon & Anna

## Selected Studies in Aging – How Did Characters in the Bible Finish in Life?

Hal Habecker, Finishing Well Ministries

*"Don't Let Me Drown in Shallow Water" (Crawford Loritts)*

Grow old along with me!  
The best is yet to be,  
The last of life, for which the first was made:  
Our times are in his hand  
Who saith "A whole I planned,  
Youth shows but half; trust God: see all, nor be afraid!"  
Robert Browning – "Rabbi Ben Ezra"

### Simeon & Anna

Luke 2.21-38

We meet Simeon and Anna in the Advent section of the Gospel of Luke. As characters of the Advent story, they seem to be the oldest people one will meet. Perhaps as the oldest people in the Advent story we would be wise to pay attention to how they were living in their aging years. While we do not know exactly the details of their lives at the end of life, we can be assured of how they were living at the end of their lives, and we can assume they finished well in the same way.

Our story begins in Luke 2.21-24, when Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple to be dedicated on the 8th day of his life where they unexpectedly meet Simeon.

· How was Simeon living at the time?

*And there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 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. And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law, then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said...(Luke 2:25-28).*

- He was righteous and devout
- He was looking for the consolation of Israel (the Messiah)
- The **Holy Spirit** was upon him

