The beginning point of peace

Mark 1:15 The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Key: p. 2: purposes; promises.

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The Upside-Down Peace The Upside-Down Kingdom—part 3 December 12, 2021

■ Walking closely to the heart of God

Luke 2:25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him.

Luke 2:26 It had been <u>revealed to him by the Holy Spirit</u>

that he would not die before he had seen <u>the Lord's</u>

<u>Messiah</u>.

Luke 2:27 <u>Moved by the Spirit</u>, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ...

What is the anchor for peace?

Luke 2:28 Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: ²⁹ "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. ³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation...

Peace is rooted in understanding and embracing the p of God and p of God.

Luke 2:32...which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."

Luke 2:33 The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him.

Embracing the purposes of God

Luke 2:34 Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel..."

Luke 2:34...and to be a sign that will be spoken against,...

Luke 2:35a ...so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed.

Matthew 9:4 Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said, "Why do you entertain evil thoughts in your hearts?

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Luke 2:35b ...and a sword will pierce your own soul too.