

Holding GOD in His Arms ~ Luke 2:21-35

➔ Luke 2:25-32

INTRODUCTION

➔ Christmas is God's Gift of Salvation wrapped in swaddling clothes. Unknown

There is something more important than **man walking on the moon**, and that is **God, walking on the earth!** JErwin

Fulfilling the REQUIREMENTS of O.T. Law ~ Luke 2:21-24

²¹ On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise Him, he was named JESUS, the name the angel had given Him before He had been conceived.

Matthew 1:20-21 (NLT) ...do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. ²¹ And she will have a SON, and you are to name Him Jesus, for He will SAVE his people from their sins.

²² Then it was time for their purification offering, as required by the law of Moses after the birth of a child; so his parents took him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord. ²³ The law of the Lord says, "If a woman's first child is a boy, he must be dedicated to the LORD." ²⁴ So they offered the sacrifice REQUIRED in the law of the Lord - either a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.

Old Testament Law Required... LASN

- CIRCUMCISION on the Eighth day - Lev. 12:3
- REDEMPTION of first Born - Num. 18:15-16
- PURIFICATION of Mother - Lev. 12:6-8

IMPLICATION

²² When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord

Jesus's Parents...

- OBEYED the angel Gabriel
- KNEW God's Word
- HONORED God's Word
- OBEYED God's Word

James 1:22 (NIV) Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. DO what it says.

Simeon MAN of God ~ Luke 2:25-28 E. Lutzer

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 upon him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, 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, ²⁸ Simeon took Him in his arms and praised God, saying:

SIMEON WAS...

- RIGHTEOUS
- DEVOUT
- Eagerly WAITING for the Messiah
- Holy Spirit was UPON him
- GUIDED by Holy Spirit

IMPLICATION

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 upon him.

2 Timothy 4:7-8 (NIV) I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day--and not only to me, but also to ALL who have longed for His appearing.

Those Who LONG for His Coming...

- Are Focused on what God WANTS
- Eagerly PURSUE a Closer Walk with Jesus
- Keep Short Accounts
- Spend Time With those who Know the Lord
- Share the Good News so that Others can Know Jesus

Jesus did NOT come to make bad people good - God sent Jesus so that those who were Dead could be made Alive. Unknown

Prophecy ABOUT Jesus ~ Luke 2:28-35 E. Lutzer

²⁸ Simeon took Him in his arms and praised God, saying: ²⁹ "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. ³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all people, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." ³³ The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about Him. 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, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

IMPLICATION

Three Word Pictures

➤ **STONE - Rise and Fall of Many**

Luke 20:17-18 (NIV) Jesus looked directly at them and asked, Then what is the meaning of that which is written: The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone? ¹⁸ Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, but he on whom it falls will be crushed.

1 Corinthians 1:22-25 (NIV) Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength."

➤ **SIGN - spoken against**

John 12:37 (NIV) Even after Jesus had done all these **miraculous signs** in their presence, they still would NOT believe in him.

➤ **SWORD - Pierce Mary's soul**

TAKE AWAY ??

Jesus Came... DPlatt

- to a VIRGIN mother
- to an ADOPTIVE father
- to a FALLEN world

Jesus is...

- the SON of Man Fully **Human**
- the SON of GOD Fully **Divine**

Jesus Reaffirmed that...

- God is the CREATOR and SUSTAINER of all things
- God is Always FAITHFUL to His Word
- God is TRANSCENDENT over us

Simeon said Jesus became THE...

- CORNERSTONE the most important stone for those who BELIEVED Him
- ROCK of JUDGMENT for those who REJECTED Him