

Fulfillment

December 21, 2014

Vol. 4 Num. 50

LUKE 2:21-38

Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This is the season that we celebrate the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ. In the days of Jesus, there were many that were looking for the Messiah to come. The nation of Israel expected God to send One that would save the world from our sin. It is clear that the prophecies are understood because of the expectation that surrounds the nation. When Jesus is born the prophecies are fulfilled. God has sent peace to the world through His son, Jesus Christ. This peace between God and sinful man signifies our salvation and the hope of eternity through Christ. This morning we will talk about how the birth of Jesus fulfilled the prophecies that a nation had been longing to see.



🕒 EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the passage.

Read Luke 2:21-38 (NET)

²¹ At the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was named Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

²² Now when the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Joseph and Mary brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord

²³ (just as it is written in the law of the Lord, “*Every firstborn male will be set apart to the Lord*”),

²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice according to what is specified in the law of the Lord, *a pair of doves or two young pigeons*.

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon who was righteous and devout, looking for the restoration 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 So Simeon, directed by the Spirit, came into the temple courts, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary according to the law,

²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and blessed God, saying,

²⁹ “Now, according to your word, Sovereign Lord, permit your servant to depart in peace.

³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹ that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples:

³² a light, for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³ So the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was said about him.

³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “Listen carefully: This child is destined to be the cause of the falling and rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that will be rejected.

³⁵ Indeed, as a result of him the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul as well!”

³⁶ There was also a prophetess, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old, having been married to her husband for seven years until his death.

³⁷ She had lived as a widow since then for eighty-four years. She never left the temple, worshipping with fasting and prayer night and day.

³⁸ At that moment, she came up to them and began to give thanks to God and to speak about the child to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN?

1. Jesus was taken to the temple, as was the custom for all first born males. There would have been many children that were brought to be dedicated at the temple. How did Simeon know that Jesus was the Messiah?
2. What significance does verse 32 have in reference to Gentiles and Israel?
3. In those days there were many people looking for the Messiah to come. What does that tell us about the clarity of the prophecies of Jesus?
4. What characteristics of God are revealed when Jesus comes and fulfills all the prophecies?
5. Name as many prophecies as you can that were fulfilled by the birth of Jesus.

