

December 22, 2024

Christmas Attitude Luke 2:21-38 Pastor Kirk Gambrell

Vol. 14 Num. 50

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 week we will take a week off from our study of Romans to celebrate the birth of Christ. During this Christmas season may the joy, hope, and peace of the coming Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts and overflow to all those in your life.

A LIGHT OF REVELATION TO THE GENTILES,
And the glory of Your people Israel."

Luke 2:32



Jesus Presented at the Temple

21 And when eight days had passed, before His circumcision, His name was *then* called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.

22 And when the days for their purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord **23** (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every *firstborn* male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”), **24** and to offer a sacrifice according to what was said in the Law of the Lord, “A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

25 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. **26** 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. **27** 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, **28** then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said,

29 “Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace,
According to Your word;

30 For my eyes have seen Your salvation,

31 Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

32 A Light of revelation to the Gentiles,
And the glory of Your people Israel.”

33 And His father and mother were amazed at the things which were being said about Him. **34** And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, “Behold, this *Child* is appointed for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and for a sign to be opposed— **35** and a sword will pierce even your own soul—to the end that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

36 And there was a prophetess, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years and had lived with *her* husband seven years after her marriage, **37** and then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple, serving night and day with fastings and prayers. **38** At that very moment she came up and *began* giving thanks to God, and continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

o EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details from this passage.

Make 10 of your own observations from this passage. Avoid jumping to make interpretive decisions or drawing applications. Save those for the sections that follow. At this point just observe this passage and what it says. Look for things that are emphasized, repeated, and what stands out to you. Look at the verbs, what actions are in the text? Who is involved in the text? There is no right or wrong answer, just list 10 things you see in the text.

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🕒 Explore His Word (Interpretation) (For Community group discussion)

What does God MEAN?

1. Why was Jesus taken to the temple?
2. What was the purpose of offering the sacrifice at the temple?
3. What did the Holy Spirit reveal to Simeon?
4. What emotions do you think Simeon showed when he saw Jesus?
5. How is Jesus the fall and rise of many?
6. What redemption is Anna looking for?
7. Describe what you think the emotions were for each of the people in the temple scene?

③ EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)

Why does this MATTER to me?

8. Does Jesus solicit the emotions of joy, hope and peace for you? In what way?

9. What are some ways that others can see your joy, hope and peace that comes from Jesus?

10. In your own words state the main idea in this passage. How does this idea best apply to your life?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

Sermon Notes