

December 29, 2019

The Savior Comes

Luke 2:21-38

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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.

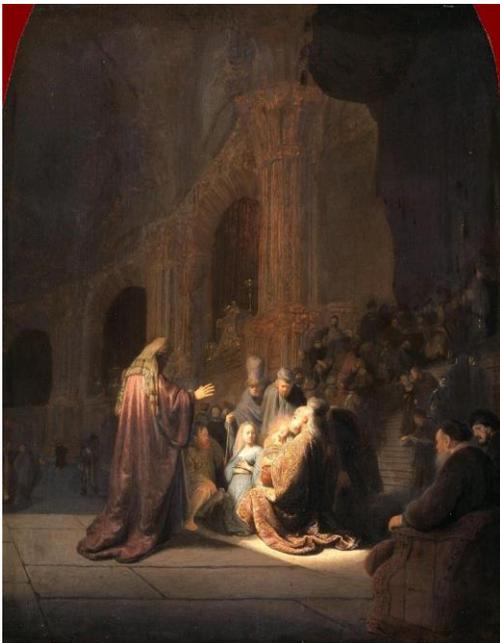
❸ EMBRACE His Word

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

For *my eyes* have seen your salvation
that you have prepared in the presence of all
peoples, a light for revelation to the
Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.

Luke 2:30-32

The Creator of the world came as a baby in a manger, but He came as part of a plan and a purpose. When Jesus is taken to the temple to be dedicated as a child He is recognized as the Savior. There is a man named Simeon that is directed by the Spirit to prophesy about Jesus and declare the salvation that He brings. There is also a temple servant named Anna that praises and gives thanks to God for the coming of Jesus. These things happen long before Jesus ever reveals who He is or even starts His ministry. At this point Jesus is just a helpless baby, but the Spirit is at work and God is declaring the salvation that Jesus will offer. Join us this week as we take a look at how Jesus was declared Savior before He could even talk because He is the fulfillment of God's Promise of redemption.



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 and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?
6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?
7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

8. Why was Jesus presented at the Temple as a baby?

9. What do we know about Simeon in this passage?

10. What does Simeon say about Jesus?

11. Who does Simeon say Jesus came for? What is said about Israel in comparison to what is said about Gentiles?

12. What is meant by Jesus being appointed for the fall and rise of many and a sign to be opposed?

③ EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)
Why does this MATTER to me?

13. Jesus could have come to earth in many ways. What are some of the reasons why you believe He came as a baby?

14. What do you find most significant about Simeon's declaration about Jesus? Does this impact our belief now?

15. People that were looking for the redemption of Israel had faith in God and were dependent on Him. How did God provide for them? Was it how they were expecting?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

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

Sermon Notes