

HOLDING GOD IN HIS ARMS ~ Luke 2:21-35

→ Luke 2:25-32

INTRODUCTION

There is something more important than man walking on the moon, and that is God, walking on the earth! Astronaut James Erwin

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. [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 [23] (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), [24] and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons."

OLD TESTAMENT LAW REQUIRED... Life Application Notes

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

APPLICATION

Jesus' Parents...

- 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

APPLICATION

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 Deeper 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. R. Zacharias

PROPHECY ABOUT JESUS ~ Luke 2:29-35 E. Lutzer

[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."

APPLICATION

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 ??