

Luke 2:25-26 (NLT)

[25] At that time there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon. He was righteous and devout and was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel. The Holy Spirit was upon him [26] and had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

Luke 2:27-28 (NLT)

[27] That day the Spirit led him to the Temple. So when Mary and Joseph came to present the baby Jesus to the Lord as the law required, [28] Simeon was there.

He took the child in his arms and praised God, saying,

Luke 2:29-32 (NLT)

[29] “Sovereign Lord, now let your servant die in peace, as you have promised. [30] I have seen your salvation, [31] which you have prepared for all people. [32] He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel!”

HOLDING GOD IN HIS ARMS

Luke 2:21-35

**There is something more
important than man
walking on the moon -
and that is**

God walking on the earth!

Astronaut James Erwin

Old Testament Law Required...

- **CIRCUMCISION** on the Eighth day
- **REDEMPTION** of first Born
- **PURIFICATION** of Mother

Jesus' Parents...

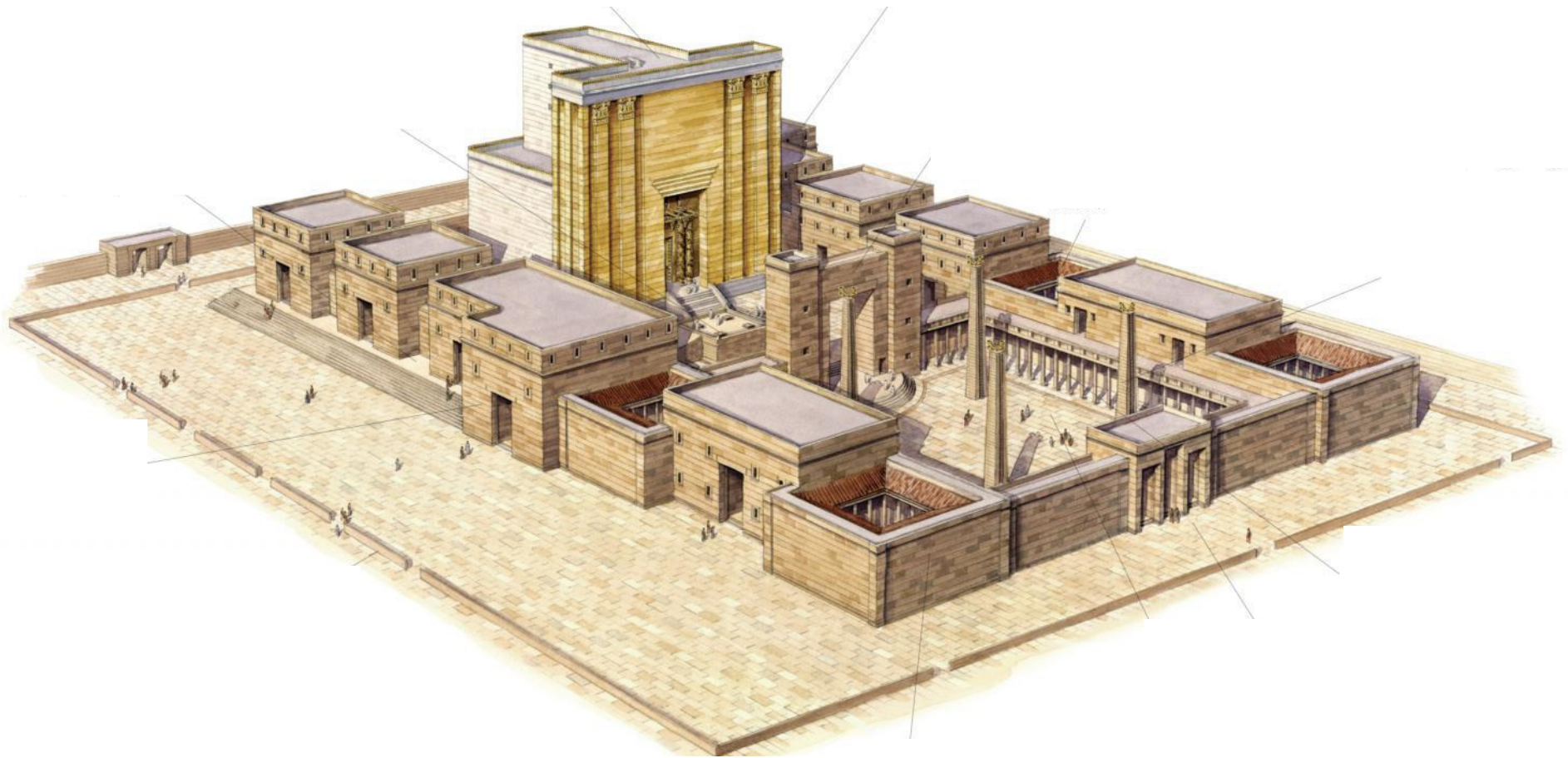
- **KNEW** God's Word
- **HONORED** God's Word
- **OBEYED** God's Word

James 1:22 (NIV)

Do not merely listen
to the word,
and so deceive yourselves.
DO what it says.

SIMEON Was...

- **Righteous**
- **Devout**
- **Eagerly WAITING** for the Messiah
- **Holy Spirit was UPON** him
- **GUIDED** by Holy Spirit



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. Zechariahs

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.”

Three Word Pictures

➤ **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.**

Three Word Pictures

➤ **SWORD** - Pierce Mary's soul

Questions

- 1- How can we see Past the way our Culture sees Christmas?
- 2 - What can we do to keep the **PURPOSE** of Jesus Coming fixed in our hearts this Christmas?
- 3 - What one thing can we do to Make Christmas More Honoring to Jesus in our lives and homes?