

Study #12 Bible Reading: Luke 2:21-39

2:21 On the eighth day the time came to circumcise the Child, and He was called Jesus, the name the angel gave Him before He was conceived.

22 When the time came for them to be purified according to the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took Jesus up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord: “Every first born boy should be called ‘the Lord’s holy one’”) 24 and to offer a sacrifice according to the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.

25 Now, there was in Jerusalem a man by the name of Simeon. He was a righteous man, fearing God and waiting for the One Who would comfort Israel. The Holy Spirit was on him. 26 The Holy Spirit had told him that before he would die he would see the Christ sent by the Lord.

27 Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple. 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, praised God, and said:

29 “Lord, now You are letting Your servant go in peace as You promised,
30 because my eyes have seen Your salvation
31 that You prepared for all people to see,
32 a light to shine on the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel.

33 His mother and Joseph were surprised such things were said about Him. 34 Then Simeon blessed them and said to His mother Mary, “Here is what this Child is appointed for: Many in Israel will fall and rise again because of Him; and He’ll be a sign that many will talk against, 35 to show what they’re thinking in their hearts. And a sword will pierce your own soul, too.”

36 Anna, a prophetess, was also there. She was a daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was now very old. When she was a girl, she had married a man and lived with him seven years. 37 After that she was a widow until she was 84. She never left the temple but worshiped day and night, fasting and praying. 38 She too came forward just then, thanked God, and talked about the Child to all who were looking for Jerusalem to be set free.

39 When Joseph and Mary had done everything the Law of the Lord told them to do, they went back to Galilee to their town of Nazareth.