

## PRAYER

Dear Father in heaven, help me always to be confident about Your faithfulness to Your promises, and never to doubt that You will always do what You promise. Amen.

### Memory

1. "Remember to keep the Sabbath day holy"  
(Exodus 20:8).
2. For all God's promises [Jesus] is the "Yes" that makes them come true. And so He makes it possible for us to give glory to God by saying, "It is true." (2 Corinthians 1:20).

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*Emmaus Bible Lessons*

Series 1: The First Three Commandments

Study #12 of 13: Simeon in the Temple (Luke 2:21-39)

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## Emmaus Bible Lessons

Series 1: The First Three Commandments

Study #12 of 13

### Third Commandment *Simeon in the Temple*



God says to you in the third commandment,  
*"Remember to keep the Sabbath day holy"*  
(Exodus 20:8).

**THIS MEANS** you must faithfully remember  
and cling to God's promises until He returns.

## **Bible Reading: Luke 2:21-39**

### **Questions and Answers**

#### **For Understanding This Bible Story**

#### **1. What promise had the Holy Spirit spoken to Simeon? How important was this promise for Simeon?**

The Holy Spirit promised Simeon that “before he [Simeon] would die he would see the Christ sent by the Lord.” The promise from God was very important for Simeon, for this very Word of promise is what made Simeon a “righteous man, fearing God and waiting for the One Who would comfort Israel.” Stated another way, God’s promise to send a Savior had given Simeon the gift of faith, and by faith Simeon was now a righteous man.

#### **2. What caused Simeon to praise God and rejoice?**

Simeon praised God and rejoiced because God fulfilled His promise by sending Jesus to be born of Mary. This promise, which had given Simeon God’s gift of faith, now also produced great happiness for Simeon as he watched Mary and Joseph bring the baby Jesus into the temple.

#### **3. God says in His Bible, “For all God’s promises, [Jesus] is the ‘Yes’ that makes them come true” (2 Corinthians 1:20).**

##### **a. How many promises concerning Jesus can you count in the story of Simeon at the Temple?**

There are several promises in this story. The first and biggest promise is God’s promise to all people, that He would send a Savior, “the One Who would comfort Israel” and who would also be “a light to shine on the Gentiles.”

The second promise is the promise God spoke to Simeon only, “that before he [Simeon] would die he would see the Christ sent by the Lord.”

Simeon himself also spoke more promises from God concerning Jesus. For example, Simeon spoke two unpleasant promises to Mary, that Jesus would be “a sign that many will talk against, to show what they’re thinking in their hearts” and that “a sword will pierce your [Mary’s] own soul, too.” These two promises meant that Mary would feel terribly sad when her Son Jesus died for the sins of the whole world.

##### **b. In what way are you also included in the promises from God that are written in this story?**

Simeon’s words of thanks and praise show that you also are included in God’s promises in this story. This is true because Simeon said that Jesus is the salvation that God prepared “for all people to see.” You are certainly part of “all people”! This means that the baby Jesus, whom Simeon held in his arms, came to this earth also for you and for your salvation. Jesus’ death and resurrection forgives your sins and comforts you in your sorrows, just as Jesus is “the One Who would comfort Israel.”

#### **4. God fulfilled His promises to Simeon. What do these fulfilled promises teach you about God?**

By fulfilling the promise He spoke individually to Simeon, God is showing you that He will also be faithful in fulfilling all of His promises to you. Simeon was promised that he would not die until he saw Jesus—and that promise was fulfilled. In a similar way, God promised you at your Baptism that He would forgive you all your sins, bring you into His heaven, and give you eternal life. If God your loving Father was so careful to keep His promise to Simeon, He will also be very careful to keep His promises to you!