

## Luke 2:21-39 – The Birth of Jesus Christ, Part 4

### Introduction (vv 25, 36-38)

1. The End of the Old Testament Era and the Beginning of the New Testament Era
2. Two Individuals (Simeon and Anna) Waiting for the Redemption and Consolation of God's People
3. Consolation & Redemption (**Isaiah 40:1-2, 52:9; Micah 7:9; Luke 1:74-75**)

**Main Idea: Jesus came, born under the Law, as a fulfillment of the promise of God, as the Salvation of God, as the Light of the World, and as a Suffering Servant and Righteous Judge, in order to Redeem God's People and provide them the consolation longed for.**

### Jesus was Born Under the Law of Moses (vv 21-24)

1. Old Testaments Saints expressed their Love and Belief in Yahweh by submitting to His Law
  - a. The Law of Moses does not Save – it restrains evil, guides believers into good works, and displays the excellencies of God and sinfulness of man
  - b. Jesus was born under the Law (**Galatians 4:4-5**)
2. Six References to the Law of Moses in Our Text (**vv 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 39**)
  - a. Jesus came to free sinners from the curse of the Law
  - b. The Death of Jesus as our Substitute is only possible because of His perfect obedience
  - c. *If Jesus was to redeem Law breakers, He could not be a Law breaker Himself*
3. Mary and Joseph were God-Fearing Believers
4. Jesus Fulfilled the Law of God

### Jesus is the Fulfillment of God's Promises (vv 25-29)

1. Simeon the Righteous and Devout Man, with the Holy Spirit upon Him
  - a. Promised by the Spirit he would not see death until he saw the Lord's Christ – God is faithful, He fulfills it
  - b. God fulfills His covenant with His people, He fulfills individual promises
2. Simeon Breaks out into a Divinely Inspired Holy Hymn
  - a. He holds God in his arms – beheld the glory of the Lord in the face of Jesus Christ
  - b. God is faithful to His promise to Simeon – He is ready to die

3. Old Testament Saints longed for the Coming of the Messiah to fulfill the promises of God to bring redemption
4. New Testament Saints long for the Second Coming of Jesus when God's enemies will be judged & establish peace

### Jesus Is the Salvation of God (vv 30-31)

1. Simeon sings of God's redemption in baby Jesus
2. He sees Jesus as the Savior of Sinners (**Mt 1:21, Lk 2:11**)
3. We are sinners, guilty, against the love and authority of God
4. Salvation is Jesus giving us a new heart, His heart to set us free from the hostility we have against God & hatred of Neighbor
5. We are saved to be as God meant us to be – Holy as He is Holy

### Jesus is the Light of the World (vv 31b-33)

1. *For All Peoples* – Not just the Jews have the offer of salvation, but also the Gentile nations
2. Previous Songs in Luke were focused on the Jewish nation (**Luke 1:33, 54-55, 2:68-69, 73**)
3. Gentiles are offered forgiveness and freedom from Sin
4. Paul's Theology of Mission emphasized this (**Eph 3:4-6; Acts 13:46-47, 26:23**)
5. The Old Testament prophesied the inclusion of the Gentile nations (**Genesis 12:1-3; Isaiah 49:6**)

### Jesus is the Suffering Servant and Judge (vv 34-35)

1. The Song of Praise moves to a Sober Word in Prophetic Prose
2. Jesus will judge and expose the Heart
  - a. Jesus was appointed to divide the sheep from the goats
  - b. Jesus would be opposed – He would reveal the thoughts of the heart (the heart is wicked, full of sin) (**Rom 8:7; Col 1:21**)
  - c. Jesus is the Rock of Offense, a Stone of Stumbling
  - d. Jesus is the Chief Cornerstone for others, on which the foundation of life is built (**Acts 4:11-12**)
3. Jesus would be opposed and would suffer
  - a. The sword would fall on Jesus
  - b. Mary is not exempt from the piercing of the sword
  - c. Mary would watch the hostility against her son
  - d. Mary would stand with the apostle John & Mary Magdalene as Jesus died on the Cross
  - e. Simeon's conversation prepared Mary for the sorrow that would assail her soul
  - f. Simeon prepared her heart for the atonement of Christ for the sins of the world, and for Mary's Sin

**Invitation: Do we have eyes to see the Salvation of God found in Christ, do we take Jesus in our arms (believe) Him and witness to others?**