



SERMON NOTES

January 24, 2010

Scripture: Luke 2:22-39 (NAS)

Topic: "Jesus' First Visit to the Temple"

Rev. Bruce Gardner

22 And when the days for their purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord
23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "EVERY firstborn MALE THAT OPENS THE WOMB SHALL BE CALLED HOLY TO THE LORD"),
24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what was said in the Law of the Lord, "A PAIR OF TURTLEDOVES OR TWO YOUNG PIGEONS."
25 And there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him.
26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.
27 And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law,
28 then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said,
29 "Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, According to Your word;
30 For my eyes have seen Your salvation,
31 Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
32 A LIGHT OF REVELATION TO THE GENTILES, And the glory of Your people Israel."
33 And His father and mother were amazed at the things which were being said about Him.
34 And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is appointed for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and for a sign to be opposed--
35 and a sword will pierce even your own soul--to the end that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."
36 And there was a prophetess, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years and had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage,
37 and then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple, serving night and day with fastings and prayers.
38 At that very moment she came up and began giving thanks to God, and continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.
39 When they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city of Nazareth.

I. EARLY CHRONOLOGY OF THE LIFE OF CHRIST

II. A TRIP TO THE TEMPLE—TWO-FOLD PURPOSE

A. Days Of Purification Complete—40 Days After Birth *Exodus 13:2*

B. Present First-Born To The Lord *Leviticus 12:6,8*

III. AT THE TEMPLE THE FOCUS IS CHANGED

A. A Meeting With Simeon

1. It was a dark time in Israel's history *1 Kings 19:14*

2. A remnant remains

B. They were not significant people in the life of the nation

1. Simeon appears without genealogy or occupation

2. Anna is an elderly widow

IV. JESUS IS IDENTIFIED AS THE MESSIAH

A. First By Simeon

1. Holy Spirit reveals the Lord Christ

2. Declares Jesus' work to be for Jews and Gentiles

3. Warning of future sorrow

B. Anna Follows Immediately

1. Thanking God

2. Spoke to others of the Christ