

Luke 2:22-40 The New Testament and Psalms/An Inclusive Version

Jesus Is Presented in the Temple

²² When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to be presented to God ²³ (as it is written in God's law, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to God"), ²⁴ and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of God, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, who was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit, rested on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to Simeon by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen God's Messiah. ²⁷ Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸ Simeon took the child in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹ "Sovereign God, now you are dismissing your servant 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 for revelation to the Gentiles

and for glory to your people Israel."

³³ And Jesus' father and mother were amazed at what was being said about their child. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, Jesus' mother, "This child is destined for the falling and

the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

The Return to Nazareth

³⁹ When they had finished everything required by the law of God, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.