

Luke 2:22-40 New Living Translation (NLT)

22 Then it was time for their purification offering, as required by the law of Moses after the birth of a child; so his parents took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. **23** The law of the Lord says, “If a woman’s first child is a boy, he must be dedicated to the Lord.”^[a] **24** So they offered the sacrifice required in the law of the Lord— “either a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”^[b]

The Prophecy of Simeon

25 At that time there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon. He was righteous and devout and was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel. The Holy Spirit was upon him **26** and had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. **27** That day the Spirit led him to the Temple. So when Mary and Joseph came to present the baby Jesus to the Lord as the law required, **28** Simeon was there. He took the child in his arms and praised God, saying,

29 “Sovereign Lord, now let your servant die in peace,
as you have promised.

30 I have seen your salvation,

31 which you have prepared for all people.

32 He is a light to reveal God to the nations,
and he is the glory of your people Israel!”

33 Jesus’ parents were amazed at what was being said about him. **34** Then Simeon blessed them, and he said to Mary, the baby’s mother, “This child is destined to cause many in Israel to fall, but he will be a joy to many others. He has been sent as a sign from God, but many will oppose him. **35** As a result, the deepest thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your very soul.”

Questions:

1. Why did Joseph and Mary take Jesus to Jerusalem?
2. Who was Simeon? What was he waiting for?
3. Read verses 29-32. Describe what Simeon is saying in your own words.
4. What does it mean that Jesus is our salvation?
5. What has Jesus saved you from?

Why is that important?