

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE



*glimpses
of glory*

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MUSIC: SHAWN HOELSCH

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Righteous Witnesses Announce the Impact of Jesus in Israel and the World Luke 2:21-39

Mary's New Son is Named According to God's Instruction (vv. 21-24)

Luke 2:21 *And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. 22 And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") 24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons."*

Through the Holy Spirit, Two Expectant Witnesses Expand Understanding of the Messiah's Reign (vv. 25-38)

Luke 2:25 *Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting 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 do for him according to the custom of the Law, 28 he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,*

Simeon identified Jesus as...

1. ...God's salvation for all people.

Luke 2:29 *"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; 30 for my eyes have seen your salvation 31 that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples..."*

2. ...God's self-disclosure for the nations & his personal presence among his people, Israel.

Luke 2:32 *...a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."*

3. ...the One whose very life will identify the true people of God.

Luke 2:33 *And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. 34 And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed*

Luke 2:35 *(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."*

Anna, a righteous temple “regular,” prophetically affirms Jesus as the Redeemer of Israel.

***Luke 2:36** And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, **37** and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. **38** And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.*

Anticipating His Future Ministry, Jesus Matures Normally While Relating to God Perfectly

***Luke 2:39** And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. **40** And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.*

Reflection & Discussion

1. Jesus is still “a sign that is opposed” (v.34) even today. What about Jesus's claims that make him so controversial? How have you experienced this reality personally?
2. Remembering Luke's purpose in writing his gospel (Luke 1:1-4), what elements in this account give you confidence in the things you have been taught about Jesus? What facts about Jesus do you know just from these first two chapters?
3. Jesus is a light “of revelation” for those outside the nation of Israel. What does this portion of Jesus's life reveal to you about God's character and purposes?

SONGS

“GOD SO LOVED” - Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, and Scott Cash

“THE LION AND THE LAMB” - Leeland Mooring, Brenton Brown, Brian Johnson

“BUILD MY LIFE” - Brett Younker, Karl Martin, Kirby Kable, Pat Barrett, and Matt Redman

“O PRAISE THE NAME (ANASTASIS)” - Dean Ussher, Marty Sampson, and Benjamin Hastings

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