JESUS PRESENTED IN THE TEMPLE

Luke 2:21–40

Key Verse: 2:32

1. What do Joseph and Mary do first for this new baby, and why (21; cf. Ge17:12–13; Lk1:31)? What do they do next (22–24)? What was this “purification” (22a,24; see Lev12)? What does it mean to “present him to the Lord” (22b–23; see Ex13:2,12–15)? Why do you think the author gives us these details?
2. How does Luke introduce Simeon, and why is this important (25a)? For what was he waiting, and why the word “consolation” (25b)? What special hope had been given him (26)? How and why does Luke emphasize the Spirit’s work in Simeon’s life? (25b–27)
3. When Jesus is being presented in the temple, what does Simeon do (28)? How does he address God and himself, and what does this mean (29; cf. 26)? What does he say about the baby Jesus (30; 1:69,77; 2:11)? How does this give him “peace”?
4. What does it mean that God has “prepared” this salvation (31; cf. 24:44–45)? What does it mean that Jesus is “a light for revelation to the Gentiles” (32; cf. Ac26:17–18; Eph3:3–6; 4:17–19; 5:8–10)? That he is “glory to…Israel” (Ro9:4–5)? What else does Simeon predict to his parents, and what does this mean? (33–35)
5. Who else does Luke introduce, how is she described, and what does she do? (36–38) Why are these details important? How does Luke conclude this event, and what can we learn from this? (39–40)