

Luke 2:21-38 CSB

When the eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus-the name given by the angel before he was conceived. [22] And when the days of their purification according to the law of Moses were finished, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord [23] (just as it is written in the law of the Lord, Every firstborn male will be dedicated to the Lord) [24] and to offer a sacrifice (according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons).

[25] There was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, looking forward to Israel's consolation, and the Holy Spirit was on him. [26] It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he saw the Lord's Messiah. [27] Guided by the Spirit, he entered the temple. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform for him what was customary under the law, [28] Simeon took him up in his arms, praised God, and said,

[29] Now, Master, you can dismiss your servant in peace, as you promised.

[30] For my eyes have seen your salvation.

[31] You have prepared it in the presence of all peoples-

[32] a light for revelation to the Gentiles and glory to your people Israel.

[33] His father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. [34] Then Simeon blessed them and told his mother Mary, "Indeed, this child is destined to cause the fall and rise of many in Israel and to be a sign that will be opposed - [35] and a sword will pierce your own soul-that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

[36] There was also a prophetess, Anna, a daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well along in years, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, [37] and was a widow for eighty-four years. She did not leave the temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayers. [38] At that very moment, she came up and began to thank God and to speak about him to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

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What is you are longing for this Christmas?

1. Mary & Jospheh - Honouring God, obeying His word.

2. Simeon - Longing for the Comforter

Longings realised

God revealed

Not all good news

3. Anna - Hopes of redemption

4. Just a bit extreme...

5. The problem with temporal longings...

6. Would you be content if...