

Gospel of Luke

Chapter 2b

7. What did the shepherds do when the angels went back into heaven?

- ▶ They went to Bethlehem to see what they'd been told.
- ▶ They saw the Sign – the baby in the manger.
- ▶ After seeing Him, they told what they'd heard about the child.
 - Those who heard wondered at these things.
 - Mary treasured all the things and pondered them in her heart.
- ▶ The shepherds left and were glorifying and praising God for what they'd heard and seen – just as they'd been told.

8. What happened in verse 21? How does this compare with Luke 1:59–64 and Luke 1:13?

▶ Jesus eight days after His birth

- He was given the name “Jesus”, as Gabriel told Mary.
 - The delay in naming a boy until his circumcision was unusual in Judaism at this time.
- He was Circumcised.

▶ John eight days after His birth

- He was given the name “John” as Gabriel told Zacharias.
- He was Circumcised.

Gospel of Luke

Verses 22 – 38

9. What other customs of the Law do you see in Luke 2:22–24? Compare this with Exodus 13:1–2 and Leviticus 12:1–8.

- ▶ After Mary's days of purification according to the Law, they took Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem to be presented to the Lord and to offer a sacrifice.
 - *Exodus 13:1–2* Every firstborn was sanctified / consecrated to the Lord and belonged to Him.
 - *Leviticus 12:1–8* After a son was born, he was to be circumcised on the 8 day. His mother was not to enter the sanctuary for another 33 days. Then she was to bring an offering to the priest at the tent of meeting, the tabernacle. Later, when the temple was built, offerings were brought there.

9. What other customs of the Law do you see in Luke 2:22–24? Compare this with Exodus 13:1–2 and Leviticus 12:1–8.

▶ Leviticus 12:8

- *“But if she cannot afford a lamb, then she shall take **two turtledoves** or two young pigeons, the one **for a burnt offering** and the other for a sin offering; and the priest shall make atonement for her, and she will be clean.”*

▶ Luke 2:24

- *“and to offer **a sacrifice** according to what was said in the Law of the Lord, “A pair of turtledoves or **two young pigeons.**”*

10. Next we come to Simeon, who was Simeon, v25–29?

- ▶ A righteous and devout man looking for the **consolation** of Israel.
 - **What's consolation mean?**
- ▶ The Holy Spirit was on him and told him that he would not die until he saw the Lord's Christ.
- ▶ He came in the **Spirit** to the temple, held Jesus, and blessed Mary and Joseph.

▶ What's consolation mean?

- παράκλησις paraklēsis, par-ak'-lay-sis; imploration, hortation, solace:—**comfort, consolation, exhortation, intreaty.**
- παράκλητος paraklētōs, par-ak'-lay-tos; an **intercessor, consoler**:—**advocate, comforter.**

11. What did Simeon say about Jesus in the temple, v30–32?

- ▶ Jesus is God's salvation, prepared in the presence of all peoples.
- ▶ A light of revelation to the Gentiles.
 - What does revelation mean?
 - ἀποκάλυψις apōkalupsis, ap-ok-al'-oop-sis; from 601; **disclosure:—appearing, coming, lighten, manifestation, be revealed, revelation.**
- ▶ The glory of God's people Israel.

12. Read Isaiah 42:6 and Isaiah 49:6, how do these verses relate to Luke 2:32?

“I am the LORD, I have called You in righteousness, I will also hold You by the hand and watch over You, and I will appoint You as a covenant to the people, as a light to the nations,” Isaiah 42:6

- ▶ Israel is not the end of God’s revelation, but the conduit of God’s revelation & covenant to all humanity.

“He says, “It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also make You a light of the nations So that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth.” Isaiah 49:6

- ▶ Jesus has not rejected Israel, but he’ll use them to be a light to the Gentiles for salvation.

13. What did Simeon say Jesus was appointed for, v34–35?

- ▶ The fall and rise of many in Israel.
- ▶ Mary's soul would be pierced with a sword.
- ▶ A sign to be opposed, so that **thoughts** from many hearts will be revealed.
 - “**thoughts** (used 13 times in NT) that resist or oppose the divine will.”
- ▶ A great test will befall the world in the life of Jesus, climaxing in the cross at Calvary.

14. Who was Anna and what did Anna say about Jesus in the temple?

- ▶ A prophetess from the tribe of Asher
- ▶ An 84-year-old widow
- ▶ Never left the temple, serving night and day with fasting's and prayers
- ▶ At that very hour, she came up and began thanking God.

- ▶ She spoke of Him to all who were waiting for Jerusalem's **redemption**.

15. Compare what Anna spoke about with Luke 1:68. What do you learn about God's purpose for sending Jesus?

- ▶ Luke 1:68

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited us and accomplished redemption for His people,"

- ▶ God wants to redeem Israel.

16. What does redemption mean?

- ▶ Being ransomed, released or liberated from an oppressive situation.
- ▶ The release of people, animals, or property from bondage through the payment of a price.
 - The two Hebrew root words associated with redemption are:
 - גָּאֵל (ga'al), meaning “redeem” or “act as a kinsman–redeemer”
 - פָּדָה (padah), meaning “ransom” or “redeem”

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Verses 39 – 52

Return to Nazareth / Visit to Jerusalem

17. What do these verses say about Joseph, Mary, and Jesus?

- ▶ Joseph and Mary did all the Law said they were to do. They returned to Galilee, to their own city of Nazareth.
- ▶ Jesus
 - Grew and became strong
 - Increased in / filled with wisdom
 - God's grace / favor was on Him
- ▶ Joseph and Mary did what the Lord, through the Law of Moses, told them to do. They went to the Feast of Passover each year in Jerusalem.

18. What is the purpose of Passover? Read Exodus 12:1–27

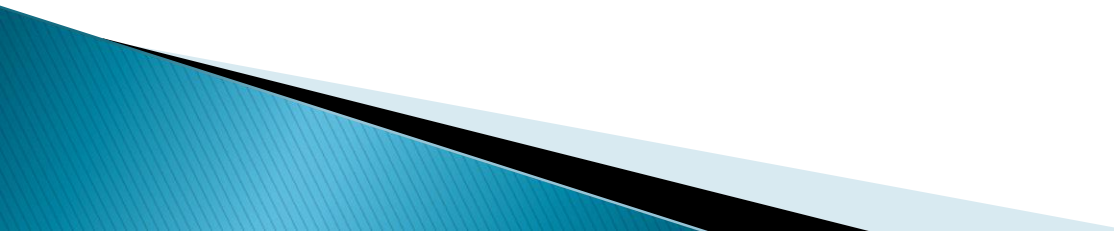
- ▶ Passover was originally when God spared the firstborn of Israel in Egypt.
 - Each family took a one-year-old unblemished male lamb.
 - They killed the lamb and put its blood on their doorposts.
 - They ate the lamb in haste.
 - It was the Lord's Passover to be observed by Israel forever.
 - As the Lord went through Egypt to kill the firstborn, He passed over the homes with the blood on the door.

19. Read 1 Corinthians 5:7–8, what is the significance of Passover to the Church?

“Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed. Therefore let us celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.”

- ▶ Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch—as you really are.
- ▶ Passover, that great founding event for God’s people Israel, and the cross, its even greater equivalent. It is not that the church will become God’s people when they get their house in order. Rather, the church is God’s people because of Christ’s sacrificial death.

20. How does Luke 2 end?

- ▶ Jesus was in the temple listening to and questioning the teachers who were amazed by His understanding and answers at 12 years old.
 - ▶ When His parents found Him there, His response was that they should have known He had to be in His Father's house.
 - ▶ They didn't understand, but Mary treasured these things in her heart.
 - ▶ There is another statement about Jesus growing.
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21. What would you say is the theme of this chapter?

- ▶ Jesus' Birth
 - ▶ Birth and Boyhood of Jesus
 - ▶ The Savior's Earthly Birth and Heavenly Mission
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