

"Ready for Anything 2020 Can Bring!"

Luke 2.22-40

Does THIS Sound like your HOME in the Last Few Days...?

"And there were in the same country children keeping watch over their stockings by the fireplace. And, Lo! Santa Claus came upon them; and they were sore afraid. And Santa said unto them: "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which be to all people who can afford them. For unto you will be given great feasts of poi and poke and many presents; and this shall be a sign unto you, ye shall find the presents, wrapped in bright paper, lying beneath a tree adorned in tinsel, colored balls and lights. And suddenly, there will be with you a multitude of relatives and friends, praising you and saying, 'Thank you so much, it was just what I wanted.' And it shall come to pass as the friends and relatives have gone away into their own homes, the parents shall say to each other, 'Darn it! What a mess to clean up! I'm tired, let's go to bed and pick it up tomorrow. Thank goodness, Christmas only comes once a year!' And they will go with haste to their cold bed and find their desired rest."

If YOU feel TIRED after BUSY Xmas Season – Think of the First Family

Mary & Joseph Began with NORMAL Engagement in Small Village

THEN it BECAME an Unwed Pregnancy

SOON Joseph wants QUIET DIVORCE as the Neighbors TALKING STINK

Travel 150 kms while MARY was 8 or 9 Months PREGNANT

Young KIDS deliver their FIRST Kid – Alone, Far from Home, Only Company

NOW TEENAGE Newlywed Parents make First Home in Strange CITY

## 1. Follow the Scriptures

New Parents read Books – Talk Aunties – Consult Dr. Google  
 SEEKING Wisdom how to RAISE TINIEST MEMBER of their Families  
 Joseph and Mary STUCK with GOD Channel – Follow Word of GOD

PAPA JOSEPH: Faithful SON of LAW of MOSES

“Joseph her husband was faithful to the law” Matthew 1.19

YOUNG Mama MARY - Daughter of Heaven

Angel told MARY - “...no word from God will ever fail.” “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Luke 1.35,38

Learn Lesson from FIRST Family: Want to Remain in God’s BLESSING 2020?

You MUST be FAITHFUL to God’s UNCHANGING WORD

Luke repeats this theme -

- v. 22 purification rites required by the Law of Moses
- v. 23 as it is written in the Law of the Lord
- v. 24 what is said in the Law of the Lord
- v. 27 the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required
- v. 39 Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord
- v. 40 child...filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him

ONLY other Story about Jesus Youth we have in BIBLE

JESUS In Temple LISTENING to the TEACHERS of the LAW of GOD

NO Question Their SON > FEAR & FOLLOW God of Moses, KING of Heaven

So, they did what HEBREWS Parents had done for 1000 years...

vs. 21-23 On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus...Joseph & Mary took him to Jerusalem...“Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”

2000 yrs Earlier God gave this SIGN to FATHER ABRAHAM and his SONS

Distinctive RITUAL for SONS of ISRAEL > SIGN of SEPARATION

Without circumcision: Regarded as Gentile,

No Lawful place in Jewish Assembly

No Right to Any Jewish Ordinance

Just WEEK OLD > J Already Shows HE will take Sins of His People on Himself

Circumcision SYMBOL of "Redemption" 1st-BORN / Redeemer is Redeemed

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5.21

Jesus MODELED the Life-Giving Command of MOSES to the Nation...

These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children... Deuteronomy 6.4-7

Jesus can SYMPATHIZE with Us in Every Stage of Life – Cradle to Grave

The MAN Jesus shows us HOW to Live from FIRST to FINAL BREATH

“The word of God is more than enough for the people of God to live their lives to the glory of God. The Father will speak by means of all that the Spirit has spoken through the Son. The question is whether we will open our Bibles and bother to listen.” Kevin DeYoung, “Taking God At His Word: Why the Bible Is Knowable, Necessary, and Enough, and What That Means for You and Me”

Make 2020 YOUR year to Read Thru WHOLE Bible > [www.bibleproject.com](http://www.bibleproject.com)

NOT only do we Need to Follow God’s Scriptures... We also need to be...

## 2. Filled with God's Spirit

Luke's GOSPEL Not only tells of Coming Savior > Also Coming of Spirit

400 SILENT Years from Malachi to Matthew – Few Spirit-filled Leaders

Luke Declares TIME of Fulfillment – MESSIAH / Christ > 'fullness of Spirit'

“When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby (John) leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit” Luke 1.41

“His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied” Luke 1.67

JOHN “he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born” Luke 1.15

Angel said to Mary - “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God” Luke 1.35

At the TIME of Jesus' PRESENTATION in the TEMPLE...

Holy Family meets Simeon/Anna – NOT a Couple or a POP DUET

Righteous Man/Woman waiting for Kingdom

OT - MOUTH OF TWO WITNESSES / TRUTH ESTABLISHED

v. 25 “Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him”

"righteous" - RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH MEN

"devout" - RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

vs. 36,37 There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying.

Anna (name means "grace") - 84 - or perhaps widow for 84 years!

"NEVER LEFT Temple"= Lived Very Near, FAITHFUL ATTENDANCE

Simeon & Anna show us HOW to Listen to God & be LEAD BY GOD

v. 26-27 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts...

### LUKE'S EMPHASIS ON THE HOLY SPIRIT

"Holy Spirit upon him...revealed by H.S...Moved by H.S."

The Story written in NT – S/A OT BELIEVERS / Living BEFORE Pentecost

"Fasting and Praying...LED by GOD at JUST the RIGHT Moment"

Ills- Holy Spirit // Radio Receiver - RECEIVES GOD'S TRANSMISSION

Know ANNA is OLD – But NOT told age of Simeon

Assume OLD Because he's Ready to Go with the Lord

v. 29 "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace."

"NOW" Ready to Die // Ready to Live for God // DEAD TO SELF

Something that SHOULD be TRUE of Every Believer – Young OR Old

LANGUAGE OF A FREED SLAVE / Complete Change of Life

Being FILLED with Spirit NOT Always mean All QUESTIONS Answered

All your TROUBLES will NOT Immediately GO AWAY

CONFIDENCE and COMFORT in the GOODNESS & Providence of GOD

"Sovereign LORD" MY God FULL CONTROL OF EVERY DETAIL of LIFE

NO KARMA – LUCK - ACCIDENTS – MISTAKES – Magic MENEHUNES

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8.28

IF you CAREFULLY FOLLOW the SCRIPTURES and  
 And CONSISTENTLY Seek to be FILLED with the SPIRIT  
 THEN by the GRACE of God you will...

### 3. Find the Son

That's what SIMEON/ANNA were Looking for...but Not YET Know NAME...

v. 25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon...He was waiting for the consolation of Israel...

There was a remnant of Israelite Believers - Waited in Hope  
 CONSOLATION of ISRAEL = Blessing for "ALL people..the Gentiles"

"consolation of Israel" = COMING OF THE MESSIAH

"in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." Genesis 12.3

Gathered in Temple to Pray and Encourage Eachother

"GLORY OF ISRAEL" - SURPASSES ALL GLORY OF OLD COVENANT

v. 38 Coming up to them at that very moment, she - ANNA - gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

Both Simeon & Anna knew at THAT Moment

Consolation of Israel had come in the Form of a Child

Redemption from God being carried into TEMPLE by Teen-Aged GALILEANS

vs. 30-32 For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."

v. 33 The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him."

marveled" - THEIR BABY WOULD CHANGE THE WORLD

But in the HEART of His MOTHER – That Change would FEEL like a CURSE

v. 34, 35 Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

## LARGE BROAD SWORD - FRIGHTFUL PIERCING ANGUISH

IMAGINE the PAIN and CONFUSION in Heart of New Mother about Newborn

"sign that will be spoken against" Acknowledge and REJECTED

Not Be LONG Until She would join in the TRAIL of TEARS

And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. Luke 23.27

“You are never more of a mature adult than when you get down on your knees and bend humbly before something greater than yourself.” Eric Clapton

TODAY Church emphasizes God’s Care for NEEDY and BROKEN

That is RIGHT because God DOES care for ALL People and ALL Needs

And when Jesus WALKED this Earth He Preached JUSTICE and Righteousness

He HEALED and Touched – UNCLEAN, OUTCASTS, and IGNORED

But let’s be VERY CLEAR > REASON Jesus walked the Earth > Go to CROSS

BORN to DIE > NAMED Jesus to SAVE His People from their SINS

Reason he HAD to DIE was to FIX our Greatest PROBLEM

There is NOTHING we CAN DO to Fix OURSELVES

Being Church Member or even a LEADER

Reading the BIBLE – Singing in the CHOIR

Being a MISSIONARY in CHINA

Our PROBLEM is DEEP WITHIN – ALL have Hearts that DO NOT –  
 LOVE GOD with ALL Heart, Soul, Mind, Strength  
 AND DO NOT LOVE NEIGHBORS as we Love OURSELVES

There is NO Ladder we can CLIMB into Heaven  
 No way to BRING the PRESENCE and POWER of God to Earth  
 That's why EMMANUEL Entered our ORBIT on ADVENT  
 And the Risen SAVIOR who restored us to God is Now with us Always

vs. 34,35 “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel...the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed.”

Like KO'OLAU's Divide OAHU > JESUS IS HISTORY'S DIVIDING RANGE

Division must Change Every Person - Repentance Precedes Forgiveness

Divides Two People - Christ is Savior and Judge / RECEIVE OR REJECT

““The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone”? Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”  
 Luke 20.17,18

NEUTRALITY about JESUS is NOT AN OPTION – 1<sup>st</sup> C or 21<sup>st</sup> C

Either Jesus will be LORD of ALL or cannot be LORD AT ALL

NEUTRALITY about Jesus is FOREVER IMPOSSIBLE

Have you fallen in repentance to rise in newness of life?

Is He your Savior or your Judge?

Do you Celebrate One who was BORN for you to be BORN AGAIN



This morning if you DECIDE to  
Follow the Scriptures,  
seek the Filling of the Holy Spirit –  
you will Find the Son

Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not  
have life. 1 John 5.12

Then you WILL Be > "Ready for Anything 2020 Can Bring!"

Luke 2<sup>21</sup>On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived. <sup>22</sup>When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”), <sup>24</sup>and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.” <sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. <sup>26</sup>It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. <sup>27</sup>Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, <sup>28</sup>Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: <sup>29</sup>“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. <sup>30</sup>For my eyes have seen your salvation, <sup>31</sup>which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: <sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.” <sup>33</sup>The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup>Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, <sup>35</sup>so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.” <sup>36</sup>There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup>and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. <sup>38</sup>Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. <sup>39</sup>When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.