

Luke 2:21-38 Ready To Receive The Blessing Of Jesus' Presence

December 21, 2008

Intro: Enjoying the greatest gift.

1. By Having Faith Jesus Christ Fulfilled The Law.

Luke 2:21-24 (HCSB)

²¹ 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).

Leviticus 12:1-3 ¹ The Lord spoke to Moses:

² “Tell the Israelites: When a woman becomes pregnant and gives birth to a male child, she will be unclean seven days, as she is during the days of her menstrual impurity.

³ The flesh of his foreskin must be circumcised on the eighth day.

Leviticus 12:8 (33 Days Later)

⁸ But if she doesn't have sufficient means for a sheep, she may take two turtledoves or two young pigeons, one for a burnt offering and the other for a sin offering. Then the priest will make atonement on her behalf, and she will be clean.”

Galatians 3:23 ²³ Before this faith came, we were confined under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith was revealed.

Galatians 4:4-7 ⁴ But when the completion of the time came, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,

⁵ to redeem those under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “*Abba*, Father!”

⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

Romans 8:2 (HCSB)

² because the Spirit's law of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

Romans 10:4 (HCSB)

⁴ For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

Philippians 3:9 (HCSB)

⁹ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own from the law, but one that is through faith in Christ—the righteousness from God based on faith.

2. By Following The Holy Spirit.

Luke 2:25-35 (HCSB)

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 complex. 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 slave in peace, according to Your word.

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.”

- **Where You Go**
- **What You Do**

- **What You Say**

Galatians 5:22-25 (HCSB)

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith,

²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law.

²⁴ Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, we must also follow the Spirit.

3. By Fasting and Prayer As You Worship God.

Luke 2:36-38 (HCSB)

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 84 years. **She did not leave the temple complex, serving God night and day with fastings 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.

Matthew 6:16-18 (HCSB)

¹⁶ **“Whenever you fast,** don’t be sad-faced like the hypocrites. For they make their faces unattractive so their fasting is obvious to people. I assure you: They’ve got their reward!

¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head, and wash your face,

¹⁸ so that you don’t show your fasting to people but to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Acts 13:2 (HCSB)

² As they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work that I have called them to.”

Invitation: Fully Experiencing the Joy Of The Presence Of Holy God!

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