



**Luke 2:21-40**

V21 – circumcise	(verb)	remove the foreskin from a male. Jews did this for all of their male children at 8 days of age as a sign that they belong to the people of God.
V21 – conceived	(verb)	formed in the mother’s womb
V22 – purification	(noun)	the action of making something pure (without contamination; perfect)
V22 – ‘the Law of Moses’		the laws that God gave to Israel through Moses. These laws instructed them on how to live as God’s people. Their obedience to these laws was a way for them to show their devotion to God.
V22 – Jerusalem	(proper noun)	the capital of Israel.
V23 – consecrated	(verb)	set apart for a God’s special purpose
V24 – sacrifice	(noun)	something offered to God as an act of worship
V24 – doves	(noun)	
		
		V24 – pigeons (noun)
		
V25 – righteous	(adjective)	doing what is right
V25 – devout	(adjective)	devoted to God
V25 – consolation	(noun)	comfort in distress and sadness
V26 – ‘the Lord’s Christ’		the Israelites referred to God as ‘The Lord’. ‘The Christ’ is the king that God had long-promised for his people.
V29 – sovereign	(adjective)	in control of all things; all-powerful
V29 – dismiss	(verb)	allow someone to leave
V30 – salvation	(noun)	the action of saving someone. When the Bible talks about ‘salvation’ it often is referring to God saving people from the consequences of our rebellion against him.
V32 – revelation	(noun)	information that has newly been made known
V32 – Gentiles	(proper noun)	all people who are not Jews
V32 – glory	(noun)	greatness, beauty
V33 – marvelled	(verb)	were amazed
V34 – blessed	(verb)	announced God’s favour on someone

V34 – destined	(verb)	appointed beforehand for a special purpose
V35 – pierce	(verb)	cut through someone with a thin, sharp object
V36 – prophetess	(noun)	a women who prophesies (i.e. speaks God’s word to God’s people)
V37 – widow	(noun)	a woman whose husband has died
V37 – fasting	(verb)	deliberately not eating food
V38 – redemption	(noun)	the action of buying something back
V40 –grace	(noun)	undeserved kindness

**Luke 2:21-40 (New International Reader’s Version)**

<sup>21</sup> When the child was eight days old, he was circumcised. At the same time he was named Jesus. This was the name the angel had given him before his mother became pregnant.

*Joseph and Mary Take Jesus to the Temple*

<sup>22</sup> The time came for making Mary “clean” as required by the Law of Moses. So Joseph and Mary took Jesus to Jerusalem. There they presented him to the Lord. <sup>23</sup> In the Law of the Lord it says, “The first boy born in every family must be set apart for the Lord.” <sup>24</sup> They also offered a sacrifice. They did it in keeping with the Law, which says, “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.”

<sup>25</sup> In Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was a good and godly man. He was waiting for God’s promise to Israel to come true. The Holy Spirit was with him. <sup>26</sup> The Spirit had told Simeon that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. <sup>27</sup> The Spirit led him into the temple courtyard. Then Jesus’ parents brought the child in. They came to do for him what the Law required. <sup>28</sup> Simeon took Jesus in his arms and praised God. He said,

<sup>29</sup> “Lord, you are the King over all.

Now let me, your servant, go in peace.

That is what you promised.

<sup>30</sup> My eyes have seen your salvation.

<sup>31</sup> You have prepared it in the sight of all nations.

<sup>32</sup> It is a light to be given to the Gentiles.

It will be the glory of your people Israel.”

<sup>33</sup> The child’s father and mother were amazed at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon blessed them. He said to Mary, Jesus’ mother, “This child is going to cause many people in Israel to fall and to rise. God has sent him. But many will speak against him. <sup>35</sup> The thoughts of many hearts will be known. A sword will wound your own soul too.”

<sup>36</sup> There was also a prophet named Anna. She was the daughter of Penuel from the tribe of Asher. Anna was very old. After getting married, she lived with her husband seven years. <sup>37</sup> Then she was a widow until she was 84. She never left the temple. She worshiped night and day, praying and going without food. <sup>38</sup> Anna came up to Jesus’ family at that moment. She gave thanks to God. And she spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the time when Jerusalem would be set free.

<sup>39</sup> Joseph and Mary did everything the Law of the Lord required. Then they returned to Galilee. They went to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> And the child grew and became strong. He was very wise. He was blessed by God’s grace.