

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 06 Dec 2020	Luke 1:1-25	Planned
2) 13 Dec	Luke 1:26-80	Conceived
3) 20 Dec	Luke 2:1-19	Proclaimed
4) 27 Dec	Luke 2:20-40	Anticipated
5) 03 Jan 2021	Luke 2:41-52	Matured
6) 10 Jan	Luke 3:1-38	Prepared
7) 17 Jan	Luke 6:27-49	Compassionate
8) 24 Jan	Luke 4:1-44	Rejected
9) 31 Jan	Luke 5:1-16; 27-39	Followed
10) 07 Feb	Luke 5:17-26	Forgives
11) 14 Feb	Luke 6:1-26	Reigns
12) 21 Feb	Luke 7:1-50	Loved
13) 28 Feb	Luke 9:1-62	Unashamed

INTRODUCTION

- In these few verses we see Jesus presented at the temple; Simeon's prophetic praise; Anna's testimony; and the family's return to Nazareth to give Jesus a normal upbringing – kinda, sorta.

Passage	Comments
2:21-24	<p>The Circumcision and Presentation of Jesus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> After 7 days, Jesus was circumcised; & after 40 days, Mary & Joseph went to Jerusalem and presented a pair of turtledoves as a sacrifice per Lev 12:1-8 Mary was to present 2 types of offerings <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Burnt Offering → To honor and praise God Sin Offering → Atonement for sin Joseph and Mary didn't have the means to offer a lamb for a burnt offering along with a pigeon or turtledove as a sin offering as specified in Lev 12:6 Their offerings of 2 turtledoves (Lev 12:8) indicates Joseph's career as a carpenter must've been just getting off the ground (IOW, he was a very young man, possibly 18-20), or he fell on hard times. Plus, since they were not rich enough to bring a lamb, they had not yet been visited by the wise men who had offerings of gold, frankincense, and myrrh

OT TITHE & OFFERINGS WERE TO MAKE GOD'S PEOPLE RELIANT ON HIM

<p>Types of Offerings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Burnt → Praise God Drink Free Free will Heave Jealousy Meat Memorial Peace/Thanksgiving Sin → Atonement Trespass Voluntary Wave Willing 	<p>Offerings were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Money Animals (oxen, sheep, dove, etc.) Field Products (corn, wine, oil, salt, etc.) Handy-works (Brass, Silver, etc.) Human (First Born > Levites > Christ) <p>Offerings were to be either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burnt; Eaten; Let Go / Freed; Thrown out; or Used for Service <p>Frequency of Offerings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> From every morning/evening to every third year
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EQUIVALENT NT OFFERINGS?

Know this... God no longer takes pleasure in Old Testament Burnt Offerings and Sin Offerings ([Heb 10:6](#)) since He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified ([Heb 10:14](#)). For where there is [perfect] forgiveness there is no longer a requirement for sacrificial animal offerings ([Heb 10:18](#))

- Our equivalent NT offerings would be our "first fruits" from what God has given us to support His work. [Prov 3:9](#) "Honor the LORD from your wealth and from the first of all your income."
- Our support of ministry work (labor, material, & \$\$\$) is a "fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God" [Phil 4:18](#)
- Our "reasonable sacrifice" includes using our bodies, our talents, and our gifts to further God's kingdom through service .. [Rom 12:1](#)
- ...and we offer up our prayers with joy..... [Phil 1:4](#)
- For more on NT Tithes and Offerings see Biblical Stewardship for Today, Lesson #: [04-Tithing](#)

Passage	Comments
2:25-35	<p>Simeon's Prophetic Praise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> God rewarded him with the ability to prophecy – to receive unique messages from God and to share them v35. How would thoughts be revealed from Christ's death? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prov 4:23 Out of the heart comes the issues of life Mat 15:18 Jesus said, "The mouth spits out what is in the heart, defiling the man" IOW, How people view Jesus Christ reveals their heart
2:36-38	<p>Prophetess Anna's Testimony</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apparently after becoming a widow young in life Anna opted to devote her remaining 60+ years in full time service, including fasting, praying, and worshipping Like Simeon, God rewarded her faithful service with ability to prophecy. She was not an idle lady. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What would have been Anna's daily routine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Definitely no TV or Facebook time Probable attendance at the morning & evening sacrifices and at all other sacrificial times Maybe, like Daniel, she took time to pray 3x daily, and possibly more Possibly, she relieved the wives of the Levitical priests by helping clean the bloody priestly robes Other services she possibly took on?
2:39-40	<p>The Family's Return to Nazareth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v40. "And the child grew, and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God" Can any child do this? And HOW? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider turning the TV off, obeying Mom & Dad 1st time, develop good study habits, including devoted time to pray & study God's words, and then live by it Remember – Partial obedience is disobedience

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS

- His early years (0-30 years of age) barely consume 80 verses. His childhood would, in all probability, be considered normal, including having messy diapers, skinned knees from playing with other kids, taking out the garbage, learning His Dad's carpentry business, teasing His younger siblings and cousins (without sinning, of course), and continuously asking His earthy parents, like all kids do, "Why?"
- No doubt, Jesus was a unique child. As the Eternal Son of God, He humbled Himself to take on the form of a human being. Being fully 100% human and fully 100% God, He walked in our shoes so He could fully empathize with the epitome of His creation – mankind.
- Now, we can take all our concerns to Him, for He knows firsthand the pains and joys of living on this planet, and what it takes to bring glory to our God and to be fruitful in His service.

NEXT WEEK: Luke 2:41-52. Jesus, when just 12 years old, opted to stay behind in Jerusalem on one Passover trip, and Mary & Joseph spent 3 days looking for their Son, finding Him sitting in the midst of the Temple teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.



"I can't get my husband to attend either."