

# Magnificent Intervention

Week of December 27

In obedience to the Mosaic Law, one month after Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph go to the Temple for her purification and to dedicate their Son to the Lord (see Leviticus 12:1-8). While they are there they meet a man named Simeon. Simeon “was righteous and devout and was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel. The Holy Spirit was upon him and had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord’s Messiah” (Luke 2:25b-26). Because the Holy Spirit was upon Simeon, he was obedient when the Spirit said, “go.” Simeon not only saw the Lord’s Messiah, he held God’s Salvation in his arms!

## Read Luke 2:21-35

At eight days old, Mary and Joseph have their Son circumcised and announce His name: “Jesus.” Remember, this was the name given by the angel to Mary before the Baby was conceived (Luke 1:31) and to Joseph before Jesus was born (Matthew 1:21). Then, when it was time for the purification offering as required in the Law after the birth of a child, notice once again, Jesus’ parents are obedient. They take Baby Jesus to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, and while they are there meet this “righteous and devout” man, Simeon.

1. Reflect for a moment how Simeon, probably well along in years, held God’s Magnificent Intervention (the Christ Child) in his arms. What does this tell you about God’s promises?

What does this tell you about the man, Simeon, who is not mentioned anywhere else in Scripture—only in Luke chapter two?

Perhaps Mary and Joseph didn’t understand at first, but this meeting at the Temple with Simeon, was appointed by God. Mary and Joseph (and the Baby) physically show up at the Temple in obedience to God, and while there, experience God’s promise to Simeon being fulfilled. And Simeon, in turn, speaks truth over the Baby.

2. What does Simeon prophecy over the Child according to Luke 2:29-32?

What does Simeon speak personally to Mary according to vv34b-35?

“This Child is destined to cause many in Israel to fall, but he will be a joy to many others. He has been sent as a sign from God, but many will oppose Him” (v34b). Does the presence of Christ bring joy to your heart? Or do you find yourself in a state of opposition toward Christ? Though God is Spirit (see John 4:24) His “Christ is the visible image of the invisible God” (Colossians 1:15). God reveals Himself and His Salvation tangibly through His Son – as He did with Simeon at the Temple. And God wants you to know salvation tangibly in your life. Christ will bring light into your darkness if you will you receive Him. Will you embrace His Salvation today?

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Text: Luke 2:25-35

## The Plain Truth:

Since our salvation is \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus, the \_\_\_\_\_ of our salvation should be \_\_\_\_\_.

1) Prayer is not \_\_\_\_\_ for it is \_\_\_\_\_ faithfulness.

**You can be \_\_\_\_\_ faithful:**

- a) 90 day challenge in worship Jan. 3- March 27, 2016
- b) Using \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Bible.
- c) Developing \_\_\_\_\_ habits in 90 days.

2) The \_\_\_\_\_ exposes both our thoughts and actions.

3) The cross is the greatest \_\_\_\_\_ ever known so we could be \_\_\_\_\_ from our \_\_\_\_\_.

December 27, 2015

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