

## Luke 2:21-39

### 3 Testimonies that this is the Messiah

1. Joseph and Mary
2. Simeon
3. Anna

Joseph and Mary were committed to Jesus completely fulfilling the law of God

- v. 22 - And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord
- v. 23 - (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”)
- v. 24 - and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.”
- v. 27 - And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law,
- v. 39 - And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

## Joseph and Mary were committed to Jesus completely fulfilling the law of God

**Matthew 5:17-18** - “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

**Luke 24:44** - Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

## Luke 2:21-24 – Joseph and Mary

### Three different ceremonies

- Circumcision and naming
- Mary's purification
- Presentation of Jesus

## Luke 2:21-24

v. 21 – Genesis 17:9-14; Leviticus 12:3

### Circumcision – Why?

- 1.) Health benefits – Without circumcision, infection is more easily spread. Historically, Jewish women have low rates of cervical cancer and other diseases because of it. Thus preserving the nation.
- 2.) Sign of the Abrahamic Covenant **Genesis 17:10**
- 3.) Spiritual object lesson – Illustrates man's need for cleansing from sin, which is passed on to every person through a male and female reproducing.

## Luke 2:21-24

v. 21 – Genesis 17:9-14; Leviticus 12:3

Circumcision – Why?

**Jeremiah 4:3-4** - Yes, the Lord has this to say to the people of Judah and Jerusalem: “Like a farmer breaking up hard unplowed ground, you must break your rebellious will and make a new beginning; just as a farmer must clear away thorns lest the seed is wasted, you must get rid of the sin that is ruining your lives.”

Just as ritual circumcision cuts away the foreskin as an external symbol of dedicated covenant commitment, you must genuinely dedicate yourselves to the Lord and get rid of everything that hinders your commitment to me...

## Luke 2:21-24

v. 21 – Genesis 17:9-14; Leviticus 12:3

Circumcision – Why did Jesus do this if He had no sin?

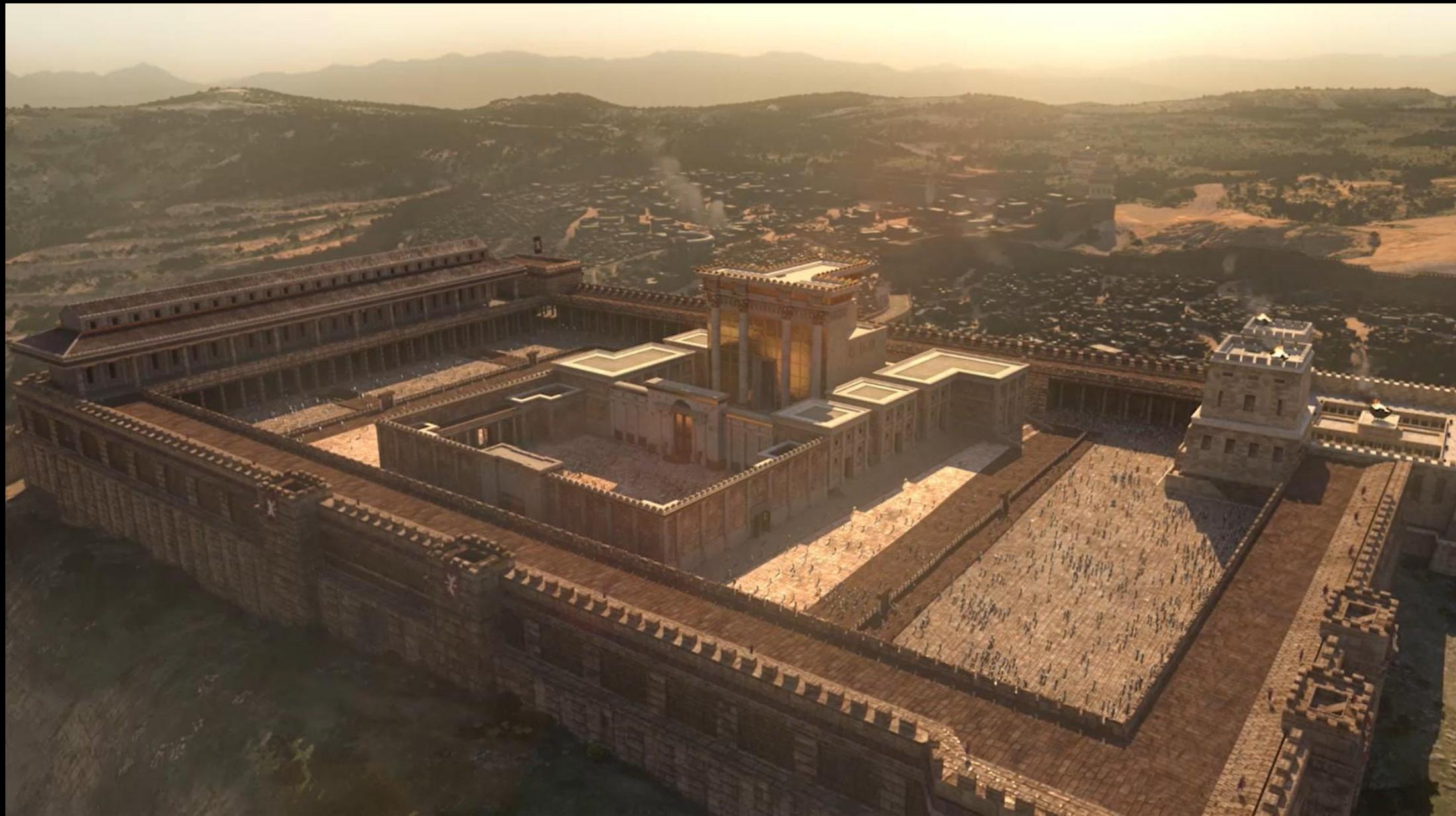
- To perfectly fulfill God's law.
- Only by doing this, could His righteousness be credited to us.
- At the cross, God treated Jesus as if He lived our sinful lives.
- So that, we could be treated as if we lived His perfectly righteous life.

## Luke 2:21-24

v. 21 – Genesis 17:9-14; Leviticus 12:3

v. 22 – Leviticus 12:1-5 – Mary was ceremonially unclean for 40 days. Although she was overjoyed with having a child, this law reminded her that her child was a sinner.

Psalm 51:5 - “Look, I was guilty of sin from birth, a sinner the moment my mother conceived me.”





## Luke 2:21-24

v. 21 – Genesis 17:9-14; Leviticus 12:3

v. 22 – Leviticus 12:1-5

v. 23 – Exodus 13:1-2; 14-15 - Although it did not have to be done at the Jerusalem temple, every firstborn male was to be set apart for God.

## Luke 2:21-24

v. 21 – Genesis 17:9-14; Leviticus 12:3

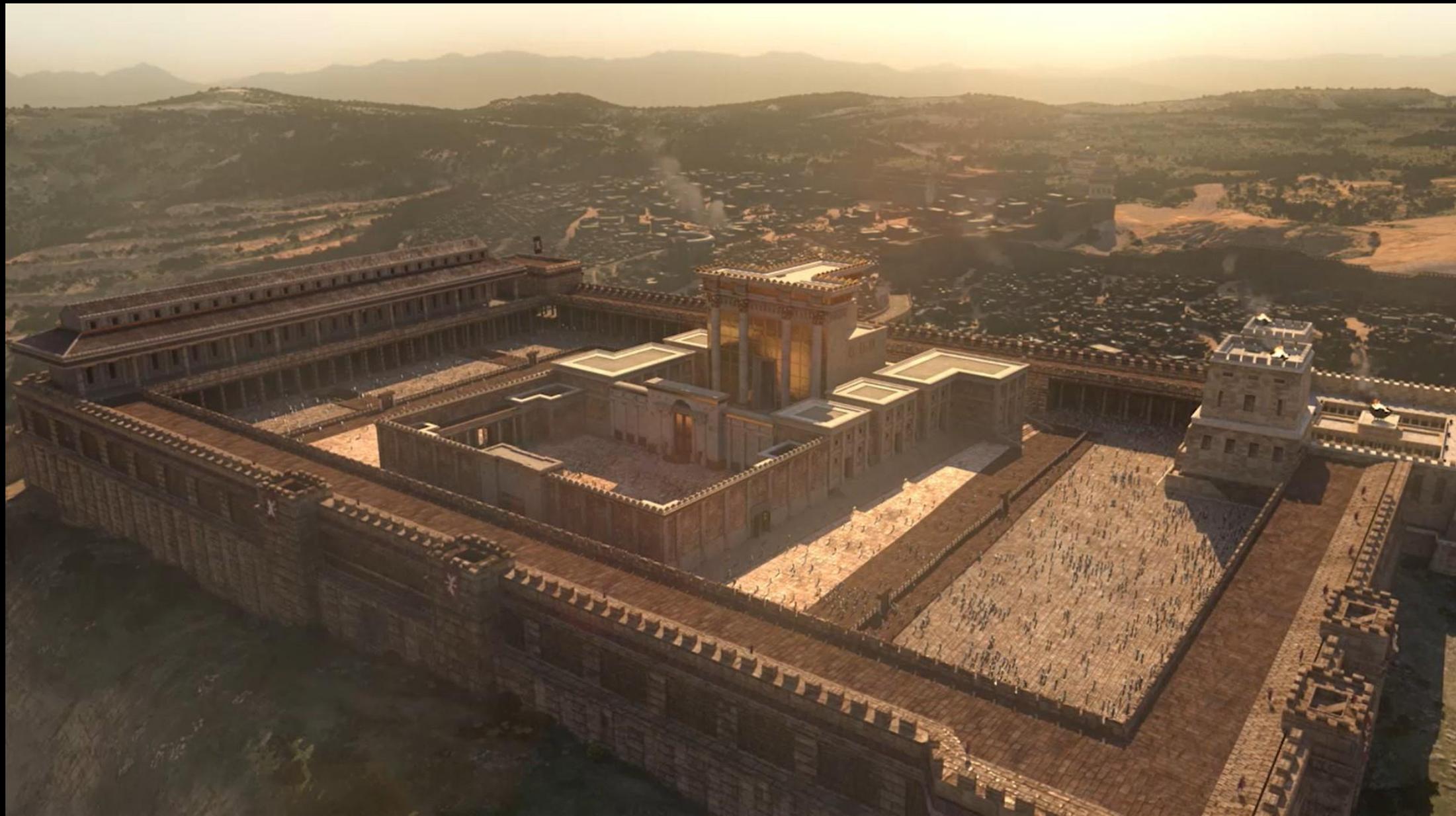
v. 22 – Leviticus 12:1-5

v. 23 – Exodus 13:1-2; 14-15

v. 24 – Leviticus 12:6-8 – The wise men have not come yet.

Luke 2:25-35 – Simeon

v. 25a. – A Jew who was righteous and devout.



## Luke 2:25-35 – Simeon

v. 25a. – A Jew who was righteous and devout.

v. 25b. – Pre-millennial

### Looking for a consoler, comforter

**Isaiah 52:8-9** - ...they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for **the Lord has comforted his people**; he has redeemed Jerusalem.

**Isaiah 57:18** - I have seen their behavior, but I will heal them and give them rest, and **I will once again console** those who mourn.

## Luke 2:25-35 – Simeon

v. 25a. – A Jew who was righteous and devout.

v. 25b. – Pre-millennial

v. 25c.-27 - and the **Holy Spirit** was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the **Holy Spirit** that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in **the Spirit** into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law,

## Luke 2:25-35 – Simeon

v. 25a. – A Jew who was righteous and devout.

v. 25b. – Pre-millennial

v. 25c.-27

- The Holy Spirit was the same in the Old Testament as in the New. Without the Spirit, no one could ever be justified, sanctified, empowered for service, witness, understand scripture, or pray God's will.
- In the Old Covenant the Holy Spirit was **with** believers. In the New Covenant He is **in** believers. He takes up **permanent residence** in you.

## Luke 2:25-35 – Simeon

v. 25a. – A Jew who was righteous and devout.

v. 25b. – Pre-millennial

v. 25c.-27

v. 28-33

- What do you think Simeon was thinking, finally holding the Messiah in his arms?
- Salvation is for all people, Jew and gentile.

## Luke 2:25-35 – Simeon

v. 25a. – A Jew who was righteous and devout.

v. 25b. – Pre-millennial

v. 25c.-27

v. 28-33

v. 34-35

- Simeon speaks directly to Mary
- Imagine the emotions of Mary as she had to raise the Son of God, then watch as He separated Himself from her, and eventually was crucified
- Her son would be rejected

## Luke 2:36-38 – Anna

- She was old and a widow
- Possibly lived in the temple complex
- Devoted to God
- She, like Simeon, demonstrates the attributes of a believer (v. 28; 38)

**Romans 1:20-21** - ...So they [Unrighteous] are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not **honor him as God** or **give thanks** to him,...

## Luke 2:36-38 – Anna

- She was old and a widow
- Possibly lived in the temple complex
- Devoted to God
- She, like Simeon, demonstrates the attributes of a believer (v. 28; 38)
- She spread the “good news” to anyone who would listen

## Luke 2:39

- Why did God choose to start out the New Testament with these people, in this way?

# The Journeys of Mary and Joseph



## God can use you if you're

- old
- young
- a widow
- poor
- a woman (especially in raising Godly children)
- seemingly insignificant