

Message Notes

Hope Incarnate: The dedication of Jesus

Introduction - Who am I?

Long's Peak

Today's Message

*Hope Incarnate:
The dedication of Jesus*
Luke 2:21-40

Setting the Scene

Luke 2:21-24

Introducing Simeon and Anna

Luke 2:25-26, 36-38

Echoes of Isaiah

Isaiah 1:4, 18

Simeon & his song of salvation

Luke 2:27-32

More Echoes of Isaiah

Isaiah 49:6, 52:9-10

Simeon's message to Mary

Luke 2:33-35

Two Takeaways

- 1.
- 2.

Anna's response to Jesus & Gospel Application -

Is the person of Jesus Christ your hope and salvation?

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Luke 2:21-40

21 On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived. 22 When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"),²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons."²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. 26 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. 27 Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required,²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:²⁹ "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. 30 For my eyes have seen your salvation,³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: 32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."³³ The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. 34 Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against,³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage,³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. 38 Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. 39 When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. 40 And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.











The Gospel of
LUKE

Last Week

"An angel of the Lord appeared to [the shepherds], and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.'"
(2:9-11)



Today's Message:
“Hope Incarnate”:
The Dedication of Jesus
Luke 2:21-40

Luke 2:21-40

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Luke 2:21-40

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Luke 2:21-40

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Where We're Headed Today

- Setting the Scene
- Introducing Simeon & Anna – & Echoes of Isaiah
- Simeon and His Song of Salvation
- Simeon's Message to Mary
- Anna's Response to Jesus and Gospel Application

Setting the Scene:

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Setting the Scene: When?

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Setting the Scene: Where?

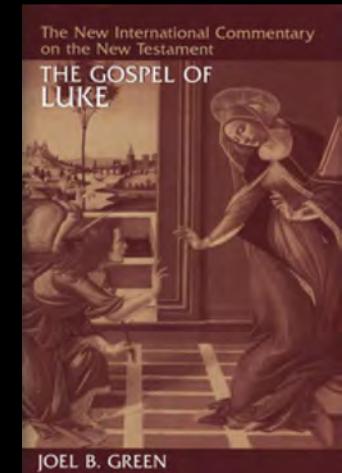
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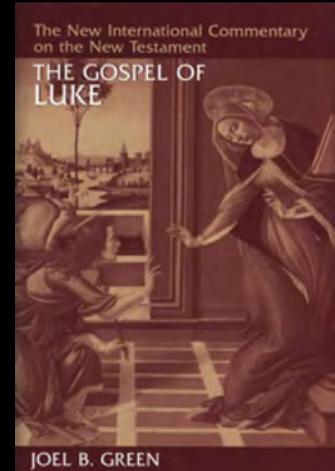
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"[Luke] presents Jesus' family as obedient to the Lord Thus: (1) they circumcise Jesus on the eighth day; (2) they give the child the name mandated by Gabriel; and they act according to the law with regard to (3) purity following childbirth, (4) bringing Jesus to Jerusalem and (5) offering the sacrifice for Mary's purification. In effect, Luke highlights not *what* they do but *why* they do it, and the results of their actions. . . . [T]hese 'normal' occurrences are laden with narrative purpose,



redirecting attention to the plan of God,
revealing again that Mary and Joseph are
willing supporters of God's aim, and
certifying that Jesus will operate from within
God's purpose."

-Joel Green, The Gospel of Luke, New Int'l Commentary



Introducing Simeon & Anna

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts.

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Echoes of Isaiah:

Waiting for the Consolation and Redemption of Israel

- The immediate context of Isaiah is Israel in exile
- A conquered people – captive and powerless
- Exile as judgment for Israel's sin and rebellion
- Theme of redemption from exile and forgiveness and restoration

Echoes of Isaiah:
Waiting for the Consolation and Redemption of Israel

⁴ Ah, sinful nation
a people loaded with guilt,
a brood of evildoers,
children given to corruption!
They have forsaken the Lord;
they have spurned the Holy One of Israel
and turned their backs on him. (Ch. 1 v. 4.)

Echoes of Isaiah:
Waiting for the Consolation and Redemption of Israel

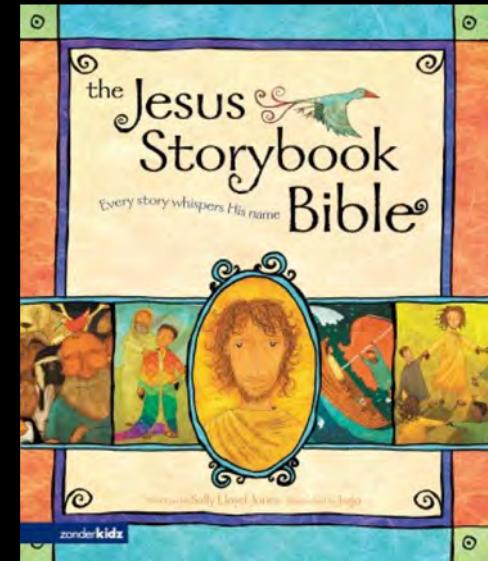
¹⁸ Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord.
‘Though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;
though they are crimson,
they shall be like wool.’” (Ch. 1, v. 18)

Echoes of Isaiah:

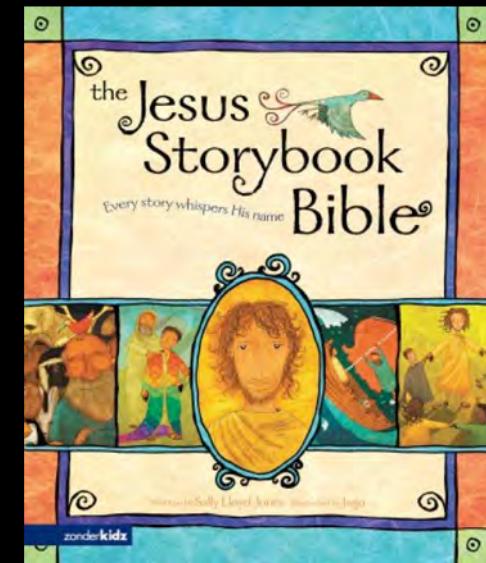
Waiting for the Consolation and Redemption of Israel

- The immediate context of Isaiah is Israel in exile
- A conquered people – captive and powerless
- Exile as judgment for Israel's sin and rebellion
- Theme of redemption from exile and restoration
- The promise of a "servant" who would bring full restoration and redemption for the people of Israel, and who would be everything God had ever hoped Israel would be – "true Israel."

“You’re all wandering away from me, like sheep in an open field. You have always been running away from me. And now you’re lost. You can’t find your way back. . . . You’ve been stumbling around, like people in a dark room. But into the darkness, a bright Light will shine! It will chase away all the shadows like sunshine. A little baby will be born. A Royal Son. . . His name will be Emmanuel, which means ‘God has come to live



with us.' . . . Yes, Someone is going to come and rescue you! But he won't be who anyone expects. He will be a King! But he won't live in a palace. And he won't have lots of money. He will be poor. And he will be a Servant. But this King will heal the whole world. . . . He will make the blind see, he will make the lame leap like deer! He will make everything the way it was always meant to be. . . . Yes, the Rescuer will come. Look for him. Watch for him. Wait for him. He will come!"



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Simeon's Song

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More Echoes of Isaiah:

"My eyes have seen your salvation, . . . a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel"

"⁶ It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth." (49:6)

More Echoes of Isaiah:

"My eyes have seen your salvation, . . . a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel"

"⁹ Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰ The Lord will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God."

(52:9-10)

Simeon's Message To Mary

³³ The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him.

³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against,³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."



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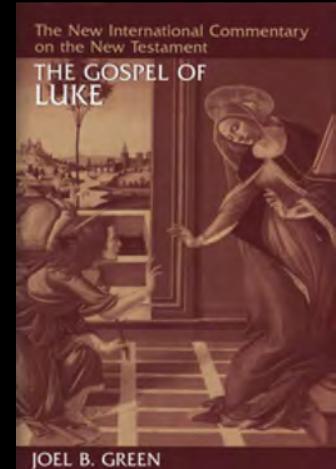
Simeon's Message To Mary

What do we know?

- Jesus will be opposed (v. 34 he will be “spoken against”)
- That opposition will reveal the state of the heart (v. 35 “so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed”)
- In response to Jesus, some in Israel will rise and some will fall. (v. 34)

“The vocabulary is absent, but the well-known image of God as the stone that causes God’s own people to stumble is echoed in Simeon’s words (cf. Isa 8:14-15). Simeon emphasized the identification of Jesus himself as this point of crisis, the one destined within God’s own purpose to reveal the secret thoughts of those who oppose the divine aim.”

-Joel Green, The Gospel of Luke, New Int'l Commentary



Two Things to Take Away:

1. The salvation Jesus offers is personal. (v. 35 “the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed”)
1. Jesus will be embraced by some and rejected by others.

Gospel of Luke Application

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1. Is the person of Jesus Christ your hope and salvation?

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2. What are you longing for and hoping for in your life more than Jesus?

Gospel of Luke Application:

1. Is the person of Jesus Christ your hope and salvation?
2. What are you longing for and hoping for in your life more than Jesus?
3. Will you respond to Jesus as Anna did, with thanksgiving and a heart to share Jesus with the world?

The Gospel of
LUKE