“A LIGHT FOR REVELATION TO THE GENTILES”

Luke 2:21–40

Key Verse: 2:32

1. What is the significance that Joseph and Mary circumcised their son and named him Jesus? (21) What else did they do, and why? (22–24) What does their offering show about their situation? (Lev12:8; 2Co8:9) Though Jesus was God’s Son, why did all these laws have to be kept? (Gal4:4,5)
2. How is Simeon described? (25) What did it mean to be “righteous and devout”? That he was “waiting for the consolation of Israel”? What special assurance did the Holy Spirit give him? (26) How did the Spirit make this happen? (27,28)
3. What did Simeon mean by asking to be dismissed in peace? (29) How did he describe Jesus? (30) Why did God “prepare” this “in the sight of all nations”? (31) Read verse 32; compare with Isaiah 42:6 and 49:6. What does it mean that Jesus is “a light for revelation to the Gentiles”? (Ac26:18; 2Co4:6; Eph1:18)
4. How did the parents respond? (33) What other things did Simeon predict? (34,35) How would Jesus cause the falling and rising of many in Israel? What did it mean that a sword would pierce Mary’s soul? (cf. Jn19:25a)
5. In what ways is Anna described? (36–37) How did she encounter the parents at this time, and what did she say about their child? (38) How does the author again emphasize Joseph and Mary’s obedience? (39) How did God bless their child? (40)