

THE FAITH OF SIMEON AND ANNA

Luke 2:21-40

Key Verses: 2:30-32 "For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

1. What was the meaning of circumcision to Abraham? to Jesus? (Ge 17:1-14) What is the spiritual meaning of circumcision for God's people today? (Ro 2:29) Why was Jesus, the Son of God, treated in such an ordinary way? (Heb 2:17) How does naming the baby "Jesus" show Jesus' parents' faith?
2. What did they offer when they brought him to the temple after Mary's time of purification? Why? (See footnote references; Ex 23:15b) What does their offering reveal about their family? (2Co 8:9) How does Jesus make us rich?
3. What kind of man was Simeon? What kind of faith did he have? What was his hope? How did he come to have such a sure hope?
4. Read verses 29-32 (Isa 49:6). What does it mean that Jesus is salvation? A light to the Gentiles? Glory to Israel? Read verses 33-35. What does it mean that he will cause the falling and rising of many? (See Lk 20:17,18) That a sword will pierce Mary's soul? (Jn 19:25)
5. Who was Anna? How did she overcome her sorrowful situation? Why did she rejoice and thank God? What promise of God do you have in your heart? Why? What is your prayer topic?