

CHAPTER TWO

Outline

- A. He told about the birth of Jesus (1-21).
1. He began with the account of the trip from Nazareth to Bethlehem where the Child was to be born (1-7).
 - a) It was at the time of the enrollment ordered by Caesar Augustus when Quirinius was governor of Syria (1-3).
 - b) Joseph went from Nazareth to Bethlehem where the family of David had to go to be enrolled, taking with him Mary who was betrothed to him and who was soon to give birth to the Child (4-5).
 - c) While there she gave birth to her firstborn Son and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger (6-7).
 - d) There was no room for them in the inn (7).
 2. He told the story of the angels and the shepherds (8-20).
 - a) How the good news came to the shepherds (8-12).
 - (1) They were keeping watch over their flocks at night when the angel of the Lord appeared to them (8-9).
 - (2) The angel said, "I bring you good news of great joy for all the people, for there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord."
 - (3) The angel gave them a sign by which they were to identify Him—they were to find the babe in swaddling clothes lying in a manger.
 - b) Then the heavenly host sang praises to God and peace to men (13-14).
 - c) The shepherds went to Bethlehem to confirm the angel's message (15-20).
 - (1) They found Joseph and Mary, and the Child lying in the manger.
 - (2) They told the amazing story of what they had learned about the Child.
 - (3) Mary kept these things in her heart and thought about their meaning.
 - (4) The shepherds went back to their flocks praising God that they had seen what the angel had told them.

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3. He told about the naming of the Child (21).
 - a) It was at the time of the circumcision on the eighth day.
 - b) His name was called JESUS.
 - c) This was the name the angel had told Mary to call Him.
- B. He told about the presentation of the Child to the Lord (22-40).
 1. Mary and Joseph brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord according to the law of Moses (22-24).
 - a) It was after the days of purification prescribed by the law of Moses.
 - b) They offered according to the law of the Lord a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.
 2. Simeon, inspired by the Holy Spirit, spoke about the Child (25-35).
 - a) Some things about Simeon (25-29).
 - (1) He was a righteous and devout man living in Jerusalem.
 - (2) He had been looking for the consolation of Israel.
 - (3) It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ.
 - (4) He was in the temple when the parents brought the Child Jesus.
 - b) What he said (28-35).
 - (1) About the Child.
 - (a) He was the fulfillment of the Lord's promise.
 - (b) This Child was a light for revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of Israel.
 - (2) To the parents as they marvelled at the things he had said about the Child.
 - (a) He told Mary that the Child was set for the rising and falling of many in Israel and for a sign to be spoken against.
 - (b) He told Mary that a sword was to pierce her soul that thoughts out of many hearts might be revealed.
 3. Anna spoke about the Child (36-38).
 - a) Some things about Anna.

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- (1) She was a prophetess who spent her time in the temple worshipping, fasting, and praying.
- (2) She was the daughter of Phanuel of the tribe of Asher.
- (3) She was an elderly widow.
- b) She spoke about Jesus to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.
4. Following the presentation, they returned to Nazareth (39-40).
- C. He told about the trip to Jerusalem at the passover feast when Jesus was twelve years old (41-52).
 1. After the parents started home, Jesus remained in Jerusalem hearing the teachers and asking questions that amazed them.
 2. The parents had supposed that He was with friends and relatives who had accompanied them, but on discovering that He was not with them they returned to Jerusalem and found Him in the temple.
 - a) Mary said, "Son, why did you do this to us? Your father and I were looking for you, sorrowing."
 - b) Jesus said, "Why did you look for me? Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?"
 - c) They didn't understand what He meant.
 3. Jesus went with them back to Nazareth where He was subject to them, growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man.

The Birth of Jesus

Scripture

2:1-21 Now it came to pass in those days, there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be enrolled. 2 This was the first enrolment made when Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 And all went to enrol themselves, every one to his own city. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David; 5 to enrol himself with Mary, who was betrothed to him, being great with child. 6 And it came to pass, while they were there, the days were fulfilled that she should be delivered. 7 And she brought forth her

firstborn son; and she wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 And there were shepherds in the same country abiding in the field, and keeping watch by night over their flock. 9 And an angel of the Lord stood by them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. 10 And the angel said unto them, Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people: 11 for there is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this *is* the sign unto you: Ye shall find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, and lying in a manger. 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14 Glory to God in the highest,

And on earth peace among men in whom he is well pleased. 15 And it came to pass, when the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing that is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. 16 And they came with haste, and found both Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in the manger. 17 And when they saw it, they made known concerning the saying which was spoken to them about this child. 18 And all that heard it wondered at the things which were spoken unto them by the shepherds. 19 But Mary kept all these sayings, pondering them in her heart. 20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, even as it was spoken unto them.

Comments

a decree from Caesar.—By order of the Roman Emperor all the people of the world who came under his authority were to be enrolled. It was a combined census and assessment with taxation as an important part of it.

Augustus reigned from 30 B. C. to 14 A. D. Historians point out that his reign was characterized by peace that extended to almost all parts of the world. But the most significant event that occurred during his reign, which was little noticed by the Romans at the time, was the birth of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Luke shows himself as a reliable historian reporting two of the most important events of the first century, the life of Christ and the history of His church.

to the city of David.—The decree required each man to go to the city of his own family. In Joseph's case, it was necessary to go to Bethlehem, the city of David, for he was of the house and family of David.

The prophecy of Micah who lived some 700 years before the birth of Christ says that He was to be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2; Matt. 2:5-6). Now the kingdom of Rome was only in its infancy when Micah prophesied. How could Micah foresee the day when the mighty Caesar would be able to issue a decree that would cause Joseph to leave his home in Nazareth and with Mary his wife go to Bethlehem that her child might be born in the city of David? The Holy Spirit spoke through the prophet!

Joseph was fully aware of the responsibility he had assumed under the direction of the Lord (Matt. 1:20-25). He took Mary with him because he was aware of the nearness of the birth of the Child.

her firstborn son.—Jesus was the first child born to Mary. "First-born" does not necessarily imply that she gave birth to other children, but Matthew's statement about the relation of Joseph and Mary after the birth of Jesus does indicate clearly that they had other children. The names of Jesus' brothers are given in Matt. 13:55-56. His sisters are referred to in the same passage. Paul mentions James the Lord's brother whom he visited in Jerusalem (Gal. 1:19).

and laid him in a manger.—In simple language, Luke related the humble circumstances of the birth of the Savior. There was no room for them in the inn. The crowded condition of the city at the time of the enrollment made it necessary for Joseph to find quarters wherever possible. The fact that there was no place in the inn for them does not suggest that Bethlehem was rejecting the Christ. They who were His own people did later by deliberate action reject Him before Pilate and cry out for Him to be crucified. God held them accountable for that terrible deed (Acts 2:22-24), but not for any discourtesy which some assume was shown by the innkeeper to Mary and Joseph.

shepherds in the same country.—Humble shepherds were the first to hear about the birth of the Savior. But later, as Matthew relates, wise men came to see the new-born King and to worship Him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and murrh.

an angel of the Lord.—Angels announced the birth of the Lord to the shepherds. They ministered to Him after the temptation and in

the Garden of Gethsemane. They were present at His resurrection and ascension. They will be with Him when He comes again. They are ministering spirits sent forth to do service for the sake of them who shall inherit salvation (Heb. 1:14), but they were never permitted to tell a sinner what to do to be saved. That message must be told by men.

I bring you good tidings.—The good news about the Savior is still the most thrilling message that can be given to the lost sinner. Luke is careful throughout his story of Jesus to set Him forth in His wonderful role as Savior.

Christ the Lord.—Christ or Messiah refers to His office as prophet, priest, and king. What does Lord mean? On the Day of Pentecost, Peter declared that God had made His both Lord and Christ, that is, this Jesus whom they had crucified and whom God had raised from the dead. Jews had long been used to pronouncing the word "Lord" when they read the word "Jehovah" (more properly YAHVEH) in the Old Testament Scriptures. When the Hebrew Scriptures were translated into Greek about 250 B. C., this Hebrew word "Yahveh" was translated "Lord." Jews were familiar with that translation in the days of Jesus and the apostles. When they heard Peter say that Jesus is Lord, they must have understood him to say that Jesus is the eternal living God. Luke has presented evidence of His deity in the facts about His birth and does not hesitate to tell Theophilus that He is the Son of God as well as the Son of Man. His authority is upheld in the word "Christ" for He is not only prophet, and priest, but also KING.

the sign unto you.—The angel gave the shepherds the sign which they could investigate and know that the child they found in the manger was the Christ.

on earth peace.—This is not merely the cessation of wars among men. It refers primarily to the peace that should exist between men and God, for sinful man in reality is at war with God. Peace may be had only by accepting the terms dictated by the Prince of Peace. See Acts 10:36; 11:18; 2:36-39. Peace is possible through the blood of Christ. "Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Rom 5:1). "Much more then, being justified by his blood, shall we be saved from the wrath of God through him. For it, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, shall we be saved by his life" (Rom 5:9-10). Enmity was destroyed

and peace made possible at the cross (Eph. 2:15-16). God's peace that passes understanding guards the hearts and thoughts of those who have been reconciled to Him through Christ (Phil. 4:6-7). And this becomes the real foundation upon which peace between men on earth can be built (Isa. 2:2-4).

men in whom he is well pleased.—Commentators differ as to the meaning and rendering of this text. It probably should be rendered, "men of good will." But what does that mean? To say that it means men who are well disposed toward one another is to ignore the fact that the angels spoke of God's favor toward men in sending them the Savior, Christ the Lord. God is well disposed toward men, for although all have sinned and have fallen short of His approval He has provided the means of blotting out their sins and reconciling them to Himself. This in no way implies that He was pleased with their sins, but He was pleased to grant to them an opportunity to repent (Acts 11:18).

and the babe lying in a manger.—The shepherds went to Bethlehem on the day of His birth and found the babe lying in a manger. But when the wise men arrived in Bethlehem they "came into the house and saw the young child with Mary his mother" (Matt. 1:11). This suggests that their visit was at a later date and that Joseph had found a house for his family, for they were no longer in the temporary quarters which they occupied when there was no place for them in the inn.

Mary kept all these things.—The memories of Mary the mother of Jesus were filled with those things about Him. She remembered the words of the angel as he told of the Child who was to be born. At the time she thought about the meaning of the heavenly message. And when the shepherds came telling her of the angel who spoke of the birth of the Savior who is Christ the Lord, Mary kept these things in her heart pondering their significance. And the words He spoke to her when He was twelve years old were also added to the memories she had kept in her heart. In all probability she did not fully understand them until that day when she stood at the foot of His cross and heard Him say, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." At least, we know that she was with that little company of believers after the resurrection of Christ (Acts 1:14).

Did Luke learn of Mary's memories from her? He does not say. He could have—assuming that she was still alive when he was

checking every detail of this gospel story. They could have been given to him directly by the Holy Spirit.

when eight days were fulfilled for circumcising him.—Circumcision was given originally to Abraham and later to the Jews (John 7: 22). Since Jesus was born under the law, His parents complied with its requirements.

His name was called JESUS.—Both Mary and Joseph had been informed that they were to call His name JESUS. There was no problem about it as there had been with the relatives when John was named.

Presenting the Child to the Lord

Scripture

2:22-40 And when the days of their purification according to the law of Moses were fulfilled, they brought him up to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord), 24 and to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons. 25 And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26 And it had been revealed unto him by the Holy Spirit, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. 27 And he came in the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, that they might do concerning him after the custom of the law, 28 then he received him into his arms, and blessed God, and said,

29 Now lettest thou thy servant depart, Lord,

According to thy word, in peace;

30 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

31 Which thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples;

32 A light for revelation to the Gentiles,

And the glory of thy people Israel.

33 And his father and his mother were marvelling at the things which were spoken concerning him; 34 and Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this *child* is set for the falling and the rising of many in Israel; and for a sign which is spoken against; 35 yea and a sword shall pierce through thine own

soul; that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed. 36 And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher (she was of a great age, having lived with a husband seven years from her virginity, 37 and she had been a widow even unto fourscore and four years), who departed not from the temple, worshipping with fastings and supplications night and day. 38 And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks unto God, and spake of him to all them that were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. 39 And when they had accomplished all things that were according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth.

40 And the child grew, and waxed strong, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

Comments

purification according to the law of Moses.—See Lev. 12:1-8 for this law of purification. It was a ceremonial purification in connection with the birth of a child. It had nothing to do with so-called "original sin." The reference to their cleansing does not suggest that Jesus had inherited the taint of Adams' sin. Adam's sin did involve all of his descendants in physical death (Rom. 5-12). But "as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive" (I Cor. 15:22).

holy to the Lord.—All of the firstborn were to be dedicated to the Lord, because He had saved them from death during the plague in Egypt (Ex. 13:1-6). Later, the Lord took the tribe of Levi instead of the firstborn (Num. 3:11-12). The law of redemption of the firstborn of man is given in Num. 18:15.

A pair of turtledoves.—The law provided for those who could not afford a lamb. They were allowed to take a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons and offer them as a burnt offering and as a sin offering (Lev. 12:8). The fact that Mary and Joseph brought such an offering indicates something of their humble circumstances.

the consolation of the Lord.—Israel had been waiting for the coming of Messiah for a long time. They needed someone to help them in their weakness, someone to console them in their sorrow; they needed someone to save them from their sins.

Simeon had been told that he would not die until he had seen the Lord's Christ, for He is the consolation of Israel and the Savior of His people. The Holy Spirit who revealed this to him gave him

the words he spoke to Mary and Joseph about the Child. He spoke of Him as salvation for the Lord's people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Israel.

Christ provided salvation for His people through His death on the cross. He gives light that reveals the way through the preaching of His Word even to Gentiles. He is the glory—the presence of God—to Israel.

the falling and rising of many in Israel.—Christ was a stone of stumbling. Just as one might stumble over a protruding rock in his pathway, some stumbled over Christ. They were the ones who had their own idea about what Messiah should do for them: overcome the Roman bondage and restore their national dignity. But many who had fallen by the wayside because of sin were to be raised up and set on the highway of holiness and dignity in the sight of the Lord.

sign that is spoken against.—Men ridiculed Jesus as He was dying on the cross, but the cross was a sign of God's love for the world and His power to save the believer (I Cor 1:18-25). His resurrection is the cornerstone of our faith (Rom. 10:9-10). It is because the apostles preached the resurrection of the Lord that they were persecuted (Acts 4:1-4).

a sword shall pierce through thine own soul.—These words refer to the cross and to the sorrow of Mary as she watched Him there (John 19:25). No other experience is mentioned in the Gospels that can fulfill this prophecy of her grief. What memories flooded her mind in that tragic hour! How her grief must have been intensified by them! But that sorrow was turned into gladness when she knew that He had been raised from the dead.

looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.—The majority of the people were looking for someone to release them from Roman bondage. Some were looking for the Savior who would redeem them from the bondage to sin. This is what Christ came to do, but the Roman bondage continued until it reached its awful climax in the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A. D.

to their own city Nazareth.—Matthew says that they went back to Bethlehem and from Bethlehem they went to Egypt where they stayed until Herod was dead. Then they came back to Judea, but because Archelaus was ruling instead of his father, Joseph was warned in a dream to go to Galilee (Matt. 2:13-23). Both Luke and Matthew agree that they went to Nazareth, but Luke does not

tell of the trip to Egypt. Luke usually gives these interesting side-lights, but in this case did not choose to do so.

At the Age of Twelve

Scripture

2:41-52 And his parents went every year to Jerusalem at the feast of the passover. 42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up after the custom of the feast; 43 and when they had fulfilled the days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and his parents knew it not; 44 but supposing him to be in the company, they went a day's journey; and they sought for him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance: 45 and when they found him not, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking for him. 46 And it came to pass, after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both hearing them, and asking them questions: 47 and all that heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. 48 And when they saw him, they were astonished; and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I sought thee sorrowing. 49 And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? knew ye not that I must be in my Father's house? 50 And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them. 51 And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth; and he was subject unto them: and his mother kept all *these* sayings in her heart.

52 And Jesus advanced in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Comments

the feast of the passover.—This is the sacrifice of the Lord's passover when He passed over the firstborn in the houses of the people of Israel and did not slay them when all the firstborn of the Egyptians were slain. See Ex. 12:27. The law required the men of Israel to appear before the Lord three times a year; one of those times was at the passover. Ex. 34:22-24. The parents of Jesus observed this custom and every year went to Jerusalem for the passover feast.

God promised the people of Israel that their lands would be protected during these feasts when the men were away from home (Ex. 34:24). But it was at the passover time that the Romans besieged the city of Jerusalem and destroyed the temple and killed thousands

of those who had gone there to worship according to that ancient custom. That awful retribution came upon them because they had forfeited their right to claim God's protection; they had crucified His Son, and the Son had warned them in these words: "Behold your house is left unto you desolate" (Matt. 23:38).

supposing him to be in the company.—Joseph had always exercised watchful care over Mary and the Child Jesus. There is no indication that he was negligent at this time. It was perfectly normal to suppose that Jesus was with the relatives and friends as the group made their way homeward. Mary seems to blame herself, for she said to Jesus, "Your father and I sought for you, sorrowing." This is not a case of delinquent parents who never care for their children. Both Mary and Joseph knew that they could trust Jesus, for he was now twelve years old and had always been obedient to them.

The incident shows a brief glimpse of Him as the Son of God who was concerned about the things of His Father.

all that heard him were amazed.—Not just a precocious twelve year old boy! We know that when He was mature all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge were hidden in Him (Col. 2:3). We are inclined to look upon Him even at the age of twelve as the One who revealed the wisdom of God (I Cor. 1:30). It must be admitted, however, that this reference alone would not necessarily indicate supernatural wisdom.

he was subject to them.—The parents were obedient to the law of Moses and to the instruction of the Lord in caring for this Child who had been entrusted to them. Jesus was obedient to loving parents who had demonstrated before Him what it meant to obey.

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honor thy father and thy mother (which is the first commandment with promise), that it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest live long on the earth" (Eph 6:1-3).

And Jesus advanced.—His development was normal for He grew intellectually, physically, spiritually, and socially.

Summary

With boldness born of complete confidence that what he was about to write was the truth, Luke told about the birth of Jesus.

The decree of Caesar had gone out and it had affected even the people who were living in the land where once David had reigned as king. Joseph was required to leave Nazareth and go to Bethlehem,

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the city of David, to enroll himself with Mary his wife. And while they were there, Mary gave birth to her firstborn Son and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger, for there was no room for them in the inn.

Shepherds were watching their flocks by night, when suddenly a brilliant light shone about them and they were greatly frightened. The angel of the Lord was standing by them, and he said, "Be not afraid; I bring you good news of great joy for all the people, for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord." Then the choir of angels sang of glory to God in the highest and of peace on earth among men of good will.

Mary and Joseph, as the law of Moses required, presented the Child to the Lord in the temple at Jerusalem. There Simeon blessed God for permitting his eyes to see the One who is the salvation of all people, and Anna the prophetess spoke about Him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Luke had made careful investigation into all the reports and records of the things about Jesus and must have known about the flight into Egypt and return to Nazareth by way of Judea as Matthew reports it. But he was hurrying with his story and merely said that Mary and Joseph returned to Nazareth, for he wanted to tell Theophilus about another journey, the one that Jesus made with His parents to Jerusalem when He was twelve years old.

Jewish families must have made a great thing out of such occasions, especially those who would be on the road several days each way. Friends and relatives had gone with Mary and Joseph to the passover feast. When it was over, they all started home, but Jesus remained in Jerusalem. Sorrowing parents sought Him supposing He was with the group. But when they didn't find Him, they returned to Jerusalem. There they found Him in the temple sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and the teachers were amazed at His understanding and His answers. To Mary's gentle rebuke—or was she blaming herself for what had happened?—Jesus said, "Why did you seek me? Didn't you know that I must be about my Father's business?" But Mary and Joseph didn't understand Him.

We do not know what rejoicing was theirs when they joined the group and journeyed on to their home. We do not know what resolutions they may have made to guard the trust the Lord had committed to them more carefully. Luke simply says that Jesus went

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with them to Nazareth and was obedient to them, and that Mary kept all these things in her heart. How precious were His mother's memories! In all probability, she is the one who shared them with Luke, and he with Theophilus, and we are blessed by the record that has been preserved for us.

Questions

1. Why did Joseph take Mary and go to Bethlehem?
2. What had Micah prophesied about the birthplace of Messiah?
3. What is known about the power of Rome at the time of Micah?
4. From the Christian point of view, what are the two most important events in the reign of Augustus?
5. What do the Scriptures say about the children of Mary and Joseph who were born after Jesus?
6. Why is He called Mary's firstborn Son?
7. What can be said about the fact that there was no room for them in the inn?
8. How does the story of the angels and the shepherds add to the evidence that proves that Jesus is the Son of God and the Son of Man?
9. What good news did the angel of the Lord bring?
10. What, in all probability, did the people understand the word "Lord" to mean when applied to Jesus?
11. What is meant by "peace on earth"?
12. What is meant by "men in whom he is well pleased"?
13. What do Matthew and Luke say about the time of the visit of the shepherds and the wise men to Bethlehem?
14. What does Luke say about the things that Mary kept in her heart?
15. Why did the parents observe the law of circumcision and presentation of the Child to the Lord?
16. What does the fact that they brought an offering of turtledoves or pigeons suggest?
17. What is meant by the consolation of Israel?
18. Who was Simeon?
19. What had the Holy Spirit revealed to him?
20. What did the Holy Spirit reveal about the Child in the words spoken by Simeon?
21. In what way was He set for the falling and rising of many?
22. What is the sign that is spoken against?

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23. What is the sword that pierced Mary's heart?
24. Who was Anna?
25. What did she say about Jesus?
26. For what possible reason did Luke omit the account of the journey to Egypt?
27. What was the passover?
28. What was the custom of observing it in the days of Joseph?
29. What had the Lord promised the men of Israel who left their homes unguarded on these feast days?
30. Why, then, did the destruction of Jerusalem occur during their feast?
31. Why would Mary and Joseph suppose that Jesus was with the group when they started home?
32. Did they blame Jesus or themselves?
33. How explain Jesus' questions and answers before the teachers?
34. What lesson is there for parents in the experience of Mary and Joseph when Jesus was twelve years old?
35. What lesson for children?