

LESSON 5

INFANCY NARRATIVES OF JOHN & JESUS FROM LUKE'S GOSPEL

B. THE BEGINNINGS: INFANCY OF JOHN THE BAPTIZER AND JESUS THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF JESUS AT THE JERUSALEM TEMPLE: Luke 1:5—2:39

The Ending Context of **LESSON 4**: The **Circumcision** of **Jesus** in Bethlehem (Luke 2:21)

LUKE 2:22-24 TWO SEEMINGLY *INSIGNIFICANT* LAWS with *SIGNIFICANT* FULFILLMENTS

IN THE JERUSALEM TEMPLE—Mary Is “Purified” (A & A) and Jesus Is “Presented”

22 **A** When the time was fulfilled for them to be purified according to the Law of Moses,

B Joseph and Mary took **Jesus** up to Jerusalem to present Him to the **Lord**

23 (as it is written in the Law of the **Lord**:

B “Every firstborn boy shall be called ‘holy to the **Lord**’.)”

24 **A** They also went to offer a sacrifice according to what the Law of the **Lord** states:

“a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.” (**Lev. 5:7**)

LEVITICUS 12

“Cleansing/Purification” for a Woman after Childbirth (A & A above)

1 The **LORD** said to Moses: **2** “Tell the Israelites: When a woman gives birth and has a boy, she is unclean for seven **[7]** days, the same number of days she is unclean during her menstruation. **3** But on the eighth day he should be circumcised. **4** And for thirty-three **[33]** more days she should stay home because she must be cleansed from her bleeding and not touch anything holy or go into the holy place until the time the cleansing from her bleeding is over. **5** If she has a girl, she should be unclean for fourteen **[14]** days as in menstruation and should stay home sixty-six **[66]** more days because she must be cleansed from her bleeding.

6 When the days in which she gets cleansed for a son or a daughter are over **[40 or 80 days]**, she should bring to the priest at the entrance of the tent where I meet with you a year old lamb for a burnt offering and a young pigeon or a turtledove to be sacrificed for sin. **7** He should offer it before the **LORD** and atone for her; then she will be clean from her flow of blood. This is the law for her who gives birth to a boy or a girl. **8** If she is too poor to give a lamb, she should take two turtledoves or two young pigeons, one for a burnt offering and the other to be sacrificed for sin, and so the priest shall atone for her, and she will be clean/purified.”

LUKE 2:22-24 TWO SEEMINGLY *INSIGNIFICANT* LAWS with *SIGNIFICANT* FULFILLMENTS

IN THE JERUSALEM TEMPLE—*Mary* Is “*Purified*” & *Jesus* Is “*Presented*” (B & B)

- 22** **A** When the time was fulfilled for them to be purified according to the Law of Moses,
B Joseph and Mary took *Jesus* up to Jerusalem to present Him to the **Lord**
- 23** (as it is written in the Law of the **Lord**:
B “Every firstborn boy shall be called ‘holy to the **Lord**’.)”
- 24** **A** They also went to offer a sacrifice according to what the Law of the **Lord** states:
 “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

EXODUS 13:12

“Presentation” of a Male Child (B & B above)

12a, c: “... give the **LORD** every firstborn, ...; if they are males, they belong to the **LORD**.”

NUMBERS 3:39, 42 & 43, 46-48:

“Presentation” of a Male Child (B & B above)

39 All of **Levi’s descendants** that Moses and Aaron counted according to their clans as the **LORD** told them, every male a month old and up, totaled **22,000**.

42 As the **LORD** ordered him, Moses counted all the **firstborn of the Israelites**.

43 All the firstborn males a month old and up, counted by name, totaled **22,273**.

46-48 .The **LORD** said: „ **As a ransom** for the two hundred seventy-three [**273**] firstborn of the Israelites beyond the total of the Levites, take for each person five shekels of silver as it is weighed in the holy place,.... Give Aaron and his sons the money paid to ransom those who were beyond the total of the Levites.”

Consider the importance of **1 Samuel 1:1, 2, 11!**

QUESTION: Where did Luke get all his research info on Mary [the mother of Jesus] and other data? See Acts 24:27 (“two years”) & Acts 21:7; 27:1 (“we” passages). Luke was with Paul during Paul’s *two-plus CAPTIVITY years* in Caesarea. Plenty of time to do research among living former “eye-witnesses” (Luke 1:2)!

Wm. Arndt, *St. Luke*, p. 24: “There is a possibility that it [the Gospel of *Luke*] was composed in Caesarea during the Apostle’s [Paul’s] enforced two years’ sojourn in that town.” On page 27 Arndt also implies that Jesus’s mother Mary may have been interviewed there in light of the following: Luke “supplies instruction on Christ’s birth and childhood, which is *not* found in the other Gospels.”

Coming Attraction: **LESSON 6:** Simeon & Anna in the Temple, Plus *Overall* Highlights