



Luke 2

International Children's Bible

Jesus Is Presented in the Temple

²² The time came for Mary and Joseph to do what the law of Moses taught about being made pure. ²³ They took Jesus to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. ²³ It is written in the law of the Lord: "Give every firstborn male to the Lord." ²⁴ Mary and Joseph also went to offer a sacrifice, as the law of the Lord says: "You must sacrifice two doves or two young pigeons."

Simeon Sees Jesus

²⁵ A man named Simeon lived in Jerusalem. He was a good man and very religious. He was waiting for the time when God would help Israel. The Holy Spirit was in him. ²⁶ The Holy Spirit told Simeon that he would not die before he saw the Christ promised by the Lord. ²⁷ The Spirit led Simeon to the Temple. Mary and Joseph brought the baby Jesus to the Temple to do what the law said they must do. ²⁸ Then Simeon took the baby in his arms and thanked God:

²⁹ "Now, Lord, you can let me, your servant,
die in peace as you said.

³⁰ I have seen your Salvation with my own eyes.

³¹ You prepared him before all people.

³² He is a light for the non-Jewish people to see.
He will bring honour to your people, the Israelites."

³³ Jesus' father and mother were amazed at what Simeon had said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, "Many in Israel will fall and many will rise because of this child. He will be a sign from God that many people will not accept. ³⁵ The things they think in secret will be made known. And the things that will happen will make your heart sad, too."

Anna Sees Jesus

³⁶ Anna, a prophetess, was there at the Temple. She was from the family of Phanuel in the tribe of Asher. Anna was very old. She had once been married for seven years. ³⁷ Then her husband died and she lived alone. She was now 84 years old. Anna never left the Temple. She worshipped God by going without food and praying day and night. ³⁸ She was standing there at that time, thanking God. She talked about Jesus to all who were waiting for God to free Jerusalem.

Joseph and Mary Return Home

³⁹ Joseph and Mary finished doing everything that the law of the Lord commanded. Then they went home to Nazareth, their own town in Galilee. ⁴⁰ The little child began to grow up. He became stronger and wiser, and God's blessings were with him.

