

References and/or Scripture Quoted  
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## Unmerited Love

Jon Hazell

Community Christian Church, Durant OK

### Luke 2:21-38

#### Jesus Presented at the Temple

<sup>21</sup> And when eight days had passed, <sup>[a]</sup>before His circumcision, His name was *then* called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.

<sup>22</sup> And when the days for their purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “EVERY *firstborn* MALE THAT OPENS THE WOMB SHALL BE CALLED HOLY TO THE LORD”), <sup>24</sup> and to offer a sacrifice according to what was said in the Law of the Lord, “A PAIR OF TURTLEDOVES OR TWO YOUNG PIGEONS.”

<sup>25</sup> And 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. <sup>26</sup> And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s <sup>[b]</sup>Christ. <sup>27</sup> And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, <sup>[c]</sup>to carry out for Him the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup> then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said,

<sup>29</sup> “Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace,

According to Your word;

<sup>30</sup> For my eyes have seen Your salvation,

<sup>31</sup> Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup> A LIGHT <sup>[d]</sup>OF REVELATION TO THE GENTILES,

And the glory of Your people Israel.”

<sup>33</sup> And His father and mother were amazed at the things which were being said about Him. <sup>34</sup> And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, “Behold, this *Child* is appointed for the fall and <sup>[e]</sup>rise of many in Israel, and for a sign to be opposed— <sup>35</sup> and a sword will pierce even your own soul—to the end that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

<sup>36</sup> And there was a prophetess, <sup>[f]</sup>Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in <sup>[g]</sup>years and had lived with *her* husband seven years after her <sup>[h]</sup>marriage, <sup>37</sup> and then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple, serving night and day with fastings and prayers. <sup>38</sup> At that very <sup>[i]</sup>moment she came up and *began* giving thanks to God, and continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

#### Footnotes:

- a. Luke 2:21 Lit *so as to circumcise Him*
- b. Luke 2:26 I.e. Messiah
- c. Luke 2:27 Lit *to do for Him according to*
- d. Luke 2:32 Or *for*
- e. Luke 2:34 Or *resurrection*
- f. Luke 2:36 Or *Hannah*
- g. Luke 2:36 Lit *days*
- h. Luke 2:36 Lit *virginity*
- i. Luke 2:38 Lit *hour*

## Matthew 25:31-46

### The Judgment

<sup>31</sup> “But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. <sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; <sup>33</sup> and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left.

<sup>34</sup> “Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. <sup>35</sup> For I was hungry, and you gave Me *something* to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me *something* to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; <sup>36</sup> naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.’ <sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You *something* to drink? <sup>38</sup> And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? <sup>39</sup> When did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ <sup>40</sup> The King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, *even the least of them*, you did it to Me.’

<sup>41</sup> “Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels; <sup>42</sup> for I was hungry, and you gave Me *nothing* to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me nothing to drink; <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger, and you did not invite Me in; naked, and you did not clothe Me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit Me.’

<sup>44</sup> Then they themselves also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not <sup>[a]</sup>take care of You?’ <sup>45</sup> Then He will answer them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ <sup>46</sup> These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

### Footnotes:

- a. Matthew 25:44 Or *serve*

## Mark 2:14-22

### Levi (Matthew) Called

<sup>14</sup> As He passed by, He saw <sup>[a]</sup>Levi the *son* of Alphaeus sitting in the tax booth, and He *\*said* to him, “Follow Me!” And he got up and followed Him.

<sup>15</sup> And it *\*[b]*happened that He was reclining *at the table* in his house, and many tax collectors and <sup>[c]</sup>sinners <sup>[d]</sup>were dining with Jesus and His disciples; for there were many of them, and they were following Him. <sup>16</sup> When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that He was eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they said to His disciples, “Why is He eating and drinking with tax collectors and <sup>[e]</sup>sinners?” <sup>17</sup> And hearing *this*, Jesus *\*said* to them, “*It is* not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick; I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

<sup>18</sup> John’s disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and they *\*came* and *\*said* to Him, “Why do John’s disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?” <sup>19</sup> And Jesus said to them, “While the bridegroom is with them, <sup>[f]</sup>the attendants of the bridegroom cannot fast, can they? So long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. <sup>20</sup> But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day.

<sup>21</sup> “No one sews <sup>[g]</sup>a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; otherwise <sup>[h]</sup>the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear results. <sup>22</sup> No one puts new wine into old

wineskins; otherwise the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost and the skins *as well*; but *one puts* new wine into fresh wineskins.”

**Footnotes:**

- a. Mark 2:14 also called *Matthew*
- b. Mark 2:15 Lit *happens*
- c. Mark 2:15 I.e. irreligious Jews
- d. Mark 2:15 Lit *were reclining with*
- e. Mark 2:16 I.e. irreligious Jews
- f. Mark 2:19 Lit *sons of the bridal-chamber*
- g. Mark 2:21 Lit *that which is put on*
- h. Mark 2:21 Lit *that which fills up*

**Romans 5:8**

<sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

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