

“Finding What You’re Looking For”

Series: ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS

November 28/29, 2009

Luke 2:21-28a

Eight days later, when the baby was circumcised, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel even before he was conceived. Then it was time for their purification offering, as required by the law of Moses after the birth of a child; so his parents took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. The law of the Lord says, “If a woman’s first child is a boy, he must be dedicated to the LORD.” So they offered the sacrifice required in the law of the Lord—“either a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

*At that time there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon. He was righteous and devout and was eagerly **waiting** for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel. The Holy Spirit was upon him and had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. That day the Spirit led him to the Temple. So when Mary and Joseph came to present the baby Jesus to the Lord as the law required, **Simeon was there.***

1. The right gift is worth the wait

Luke 2:28b-32

*He took the child in his arms and praised God, saying, “Sovereign Lord, now let your servant **die in peace**, as you have **promised**. I have **seen** your **salvation**, which you have prepared for all people.*

*He is a light to **reveal God** to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel!”*

2. The right gift comes with a warranty

Luke 2:33-35

Jesus' parents were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them, and he said to Mary, the baby's mother, "This child is destined to cause many in Israel to fall, but he will be a joy to many others.

He has been sent as a sign from God, but many will oppose him. As a result, the deepest thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your very soul."

3. Not everybody recognizes the right gift's worth

THE RIGHT GIFT OF COURSE IS...

(wait for it...)

JESUS

CHRISTMAS IS JESUS!