



CAPITOL COMMISSION®

The Greatest Name and Example of Obedience

APRIL 29-30, 2026

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Luke 2:21-24 *And when eight days were completed for the circumcision of the child, His name was called JESUS, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb. 22) Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord 23) (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”), 24) and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, “A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.” (NKJV)*

BUT WHEN THE FULNESS OF THE TIME HAD COME, GOD SENT FORTH HIS SON, BORN OF A WOMAN, BORN UNDER THE LAW, TO REDEEM THOSE WHO WERE UNDER THE LAW, THAT WE MIGHT RECEIVE THE ADOPTION AS SONS.
GALATIANS 4:4-5

Why the precision and exact timing of Christ's circumcision? What is the significance of the name, "Jesus"? Did Joseph and Mary choose the name, or was it already chosen for them and revealed to them? Why did they make the trip to their capital, Jerusalem? What was the timing of Mary's purification? Were they required to "present Him before the Lord"? How was Jesus "born under the law"? Was there a payment made for the firstborn son? Were initially these sons like Samuel, to be given to the Lord? What did Mary's offering publically prove?

FOCUS ON FUTURE BIBLE STUDIES:

- MAY 6-7: LUKE 2:25-35 **GOD'S SEVENTH WITNESS THAT JESUS IS THE MESSIAH!**
- MAY 13-14: LUKE 2:36-40 **GIVING THANKS FOR THE GREATEST GIFT!**

The continual emphasis of the coming of Christ is that He is the coming Savior. Mary begins her Magnificat with

that emphasis, "My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior" (1:46). Similarly, Zacharias, when he can finally speak, begins with the same emphasis, "Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited and redeemed His people, and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David" (1:68-69). Zacharias will conclude his song with the same emphasis regarding the responsibility of his son, "And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Highest; for you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways, to give knowledge of salvation to His people by the remission of their sins" (1:76-77). The angel continues this emphasis in his announcement to the shepherds, "For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (2:11). Instead of emphasizing the fact that He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords, or that He is the Lion of the tribe of Judah, or the great Lawgiver like Moses, or even the Good Shepherd, the constant focus is that He is our Savior.

WHEN YOU MAKE HIS SOUL AN OFFERING FOR SIN, HE SHALL SEE HIS SEED, HE SHALL PROLONG HIS DAYS, AND THE PLEASURE OF THE LORD SHALL PROSPER IN HIS HAND. HE SHALL SEE THE LABOR OF HIS SOUL AND BE SATISFIED. BY HIS KNOWLEDGE MY RIGHTEOUS SERVANT SHALL JUSTIFY MANY, FOR HE SHALL BEAR THEIR INIQUITIES." ISAIAH 53:10-11

I. THE GREATEST NAME: JESUS LUKE 2:21

As earlier with John the Baptist, eight days after He was born, circumcision was required according to the Law (Genesis 17:9-14, Leviticus 12:3). This was the sign of God's covenant with Abraham and all his seed as God's chosen people. However, circumcision is not the emphasis of our passage, but it was associated with the naming of the child, which is the emphasis. So strong is this emphasis that it reminds us that this name was not chosen by either Joseph or Mary, yet they both agreed on it because it was supernaturally provided by the angel,

BIBLE STUDIES

WEDNESDAY @ 8:30 AM – FREDERICKSBURG – PARADISE DINER – 260 WARRENTON RD & NOON – FAIRFAX – DENNY'S, 10473 FAIRFAX BLVD.

THURSDAY @ 8:00 AM – RICHMOND – SHONEY'S, HULL & COURTHOUSE & NOON – LYNCHBURG – PANERA BREAD, 3901 OLD FOREST RD.

Virginia

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even prior to His conception. It was the first thing that the angel told Mary (Luke 1:31) and, later on, the last thing the angel told Joseph (Matthew 1:21), specifically reminding him of the fulfillment of the name “JESUS,” meaning “Jehovah saves”, “*for He will save His people from their sins.*” This is most emphasized because it is the most important reason for His coming! “*For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost*” (Luke 19:10). This was the reason God sent His only Son, “*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life*” (John 3:16). It is also why we pray in Jesus’ name, “*Jesus said to him, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me*” (John 14:6). Jesus then goes on to say, “*And whatever you ask in my name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it*” (Jn. 14:13-14). This is why we pray for our leaders as a first priority, “*For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth*” (1 Timothy 2:1-4). Without salvation in Jesus Christ, sin must be paid for eternally, never escaping the fires of hell, “*prepared for the Devil and his angels*” (Mt. 25:41).

“BY THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST OF NAZARETH, WHOM YOU CRUCIFIED, WHOM GOD RAISED FROM THE DEAD, BY HIM THIS MAN STANDS BEFORE YOU WHOLE. THIS IS THE STONE WHICH WAS REJECTED BY YOU BUILDERS, WHICH HAS BECOME THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE. NOR IS THERE SALVATION IN ANY OTHER, FOR THERE IS NO OTHER NAME UNDER HEAVEN GIVEN AMONG MEN BY WHICH WE MUST BE SAVED.” ACTS 4:10-12

II. OBEDIENCE IN PRESENTATIONS LUKE 2:22-23

Following the Passover, when the Lord slew the firstborn of the unbelieving Egyptians, “*Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ‘Consecrate to Me all the firstborn, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and*

beast; it is mine” (Exodus 13:1-2). Later on, in Numbers 3:12-15, the Levites were substituted for the firstborn in dedication to God as priests, and they were to redeem or buy back their firstborn from serving with the Levites for five shekels of silver (Num. 18:15-16). This presentation to the Lord and payment to the Levites was usually done in parallel with the purification of the mother after the birth of a child described in Leviticus 12:1-5. It included the circumcision of the son on the eighth day and then another thirty three days in which the mother was considered unclean until she was purified in the Temple. Everything was done in perfect obedience (Luke 2:39).

I DELIGHT TO DO YOUR WILL, O MY GOD, AND YOUR LAW IS WITHIN MY HEART. PSALM 40:8

III. OBEDIENCE IN POVERTY

LUKE 2:24

The five shekels must have been a considerable sum for Joseph and Mary to pay to the Levites in the Temple when they dedicated Jesus to the Lord as Mary’s firstborn. She will continue to have other children, the brothers of Jesus, “*James, Joses, Simon, Judas*” “*and His sisters*” (Matthew 13:55-56, Mark 6:3), meaning that Jesus was the eldest of at least seven children by Mary. There was an offering to be presented to God after the birth of any child, “*When the days of her purification are fulfilled, whether for a son or a daughter, she shall bring to the priest a lamb of the first year as a burnt offering, and a young pigeon or a turtledove as a sin offering, to the door of the tabernacle of meeting*” (Leviticus 12:6). “*And if she is not able to bring a lamb, then she may bring two turtledoves or two young pigeons—one as a burn offering and the other as a sin offering. So the priest shall make atonement for her, and she will be clean*” (Lev. 12:8). Evidently the wise men with their generous gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh had not yet arrived because Mary cannot afford a lamb for her burnt offering, and must choose the second option presented in our passage, revealing that she and Joseph are very poor at the time.

Questions to Ponder:

- 1) Do you believe that Jesus Christ came to be your Savior and pay for your sin?
- 2) Most importantly, have you received Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord, turning from your sin?
- 3) Are you obedient to God and His Word no matter what it may cost you, whether you are in poverty or wealth?