

Ensure fellowship with God through 1 John 1:9

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Luke 2:21-40 outline of events -

1. The circumcision and naming of the Messiah (vs. 21).
2. Mary's ceremonial purification (vs. 22).
3. Redemption of Jesus as the 1st born son (vs. 22).
4. The priest's (Simeon) recognition that Jesus is, in fact, the promised Messiah (vv. 25-35).
5. The widow's (Anna) praise or thanksgiving that the Messiah has come (including her proclamation) (vv. 36-38).
6. Joseph and Mary return to Nazareth with Jesus (vv. 39-40).
7. The early years of Jesus Christ developing as a young man in the pristine area of Galilee in the city of Nazareth.

Luke 2:39

(39) When they (Joseph and Mary) had performed everything according to the **Law of the Lord**, they returned to Galilee, to their own city of Nazareth.

Law of the Lord
Abrahamic Covenant
Gen 12:3, 17:10-14
(Including land, seed and blessing)
Mosaic Law (given on Mt Sinai)
Including:
Circumcision on 8th day Lev 12:1-2
Female's purification ritual Lev 12:1-8
Redemption of the 1st born. Ex 13:1-2, 11-16; Nu 18:15-16

Luke 2:21-25

(21) And when eight days had passed, before His circumcision, His name was then called Jesus,...

Corrected - "And now eight days had been fulfilled to circumcise Him, and His name was called Jesus..."

...the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.

(22) And when the days for their purification according to the Law of Moses were completed (the seven days plus 33 days = 40 days), they brought Him up to Jerusalem to **present** Him to the Lord

Interesting Historical note – the blood collected during circumcision was used as ink to actually record the child's name in the directory of the Temple.

"Present" - παρίστημι

PARISTEMI – "To place at one's disposal" - - God's disposal!

This was done to recognize what God did in sparing all the 1st born from the 10th plague in Egyptian captivity.

The 1st born son was considered the property of God from the moment he came out of the womb.

Every 1st born son was placed at God's disposal – technically as a priest – to assist in the duties assigned to the sons of Aaron.

(23) (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "EVERY firstborn MALE THAT OPENS THE WOMB SHALL BE CALLED HOLY TO THE LORD"),

Numbers 18:15

(15) "Every first issue of the womb of all flesh, whether man or animal, which they offer to the LORD, shall be yours; nevertheless **the firstborn of man you shall surely redeem**, and the firstborn of unclean animals you shall redeem.

(16) "As to their redemption price, from a month old you shall redeem them, by your valuation, **five shekels in silver**, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, which is twenty gerahs.

It is not the value that is important here – what is important is the ritual of redemption was a Historical reminder to the people that God spared the 1st born of Israel from the 10th plague on Egypt.

Spared when the angel passed over their homes painted with the blood of the Passover lamb.

(24) and to offer a sacrifice according to what was said in the Law of the Lord, "A PAIR OF TURTLEDOVES OR TWO YOUNG PIGEONS." (Delineated in Lev 12:1-8).

Question – Would Mary have offered two doves if the magi had already arrived to see her? NO – because the value of the gifts presented. Gold, frankincense and myrrh were considered treasure. Matt 2:11
Significant value to these treasures.

These gifts were of such vast amounts that it allowed Joseph to support his family in Egypt.

God providing for His Son.

(25) 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**.

“**Righteous**” - δίκαιος

DIKAIOS - “*righteous*”

Simeon was a believer and therefore possessed God's perfect righteousness.

- Simeon received salvation by faith alone in the promise of Him who would arrive.

“Righteous” indicates that Simeon was following the required protocol for Israel at this time.

“Devout” - εὐλαβῆς

EULABES – “devoted” to do all that God wanted him to do,
“scrupulous” in executing the responsibilities of his spiritual life.

*The testimony of Simeon’s character in this matter is the Scriptures and the promise they made of a
Messiah.*

Simeon studied the Word of God – and he believed it.

All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.