

MARY: Session 5: PRESENTATION & FINDING IN TEMPLE

Fulfillment of Jewish Law

40 days after birth of firstborn male: Mother to be purified must pay *Temple Tax* and present son to priests (Lk 2)

Simeon: Righteous/devout man longing for *consolation* of Israel (Is 40-66 - when God will redeem/console His people who are in captivity); Holy Spirit gives him revelation when he sees baby Jesus as long awaited Messiah, *Now at last you can let your servant go in peace according to your word. From my eyes, I've seen your salvation, a light of revelation to the Gentiles, and **glory for your people** Israel.* (Glory of the LORD was visible manifestation of GOD's holy presence to His people in form of a cloud over the Ark of the Covenant in the tabernacle at Mt Sinai) 1 Kings 8: King Solomon speaks of the *glory cloud* coming and filling the Temple but left shortly before Babylon destroyed the Temple in 586 BC. The *glory cloud* never returned but now Simeon sees the *glory of the LORD* return

KEY LEARNING POINT

Jesus is the **Glory Cloud** returned by His mother, Mary, into the Temple that day; Simeon's prophecy considered 2nd Annunciation for Mary: *this child is destined for rise/fall of many in Israel* (describes Jesus' public ministry) and a sword will pierce Mary's soul. (1st Annunciation was from Gabriel). **SOUL:** The word *soul* only used twice for individual soul, Mary- 1) at visitation (*My **soul** magnifies the LORD*), 2) at presentation at Temple (*And a sword will pierce **your own soul** too*) - *Luke 2:34*)

Why many people followed Jesus: 1) His words, watching His great signs, to be healed of physical suffering but were absent at the cross including apostles

APPLICATION: Key criteria for being follower of Christ: take up your cross and follow Him like Mary, all the way even to the suffering of the cross

Finding of Jesus in the Temple

Families often traveled together and they look after each other's children; not unusual for children to roam around with others in family

Jesus: *"Did you not know that I must be in **my father's house**?"*

1) Temple of the Lord (my Father); doing His will, His authority

2) Honoring father and mother (but primary allegiance to His heavenly father)

He *amazes the elders in the Temple with His wisdom*

Why important: first time we know about Jesus' life since birth and not again until 30 yrs later when began ministry-at birth and finding in the Temple, Mary has *foretaste* of what is to come

APPLICATION: Maintain *attitude* of Mary – she did not understand *why* something happened, she only trusted in the LORD

MARY: Session 6: WEDDING AT CANA

Jesus now 30 yr. old man-Mary will play important role by launching Jesus' public ministry

NOTE: Running out of wine would be major social catastrophe and bring shame for family

Mary became aware of dilemma but was confident Jesus could do something about it. Jesus' response: *Woman, what has this to do with me. My hour has not yet come.*

Jesus' *exalting/honoring* Mary and her role in GOD's plan for salvation history; Mary does not take negatively and instructs servants to do what Jesus says;

Prophecy: Gen 3:15: Mary is the one who becomes the new Eve and Her son will crush the head of the serpent/defeat evil (protestants do not believe this interpretation as other women in Bible addressed as *woman*)

Review of symbolism of John's Gospel: Outlines creation story then parallels story of Jesus who is coming to bring new creation; sets stage to better understand who Jesus thus Mary, His mother, is the new *Woman* of creation

"My hour has not yet come": My Hour Refers to His passion, death, resurrection-time He will defeat Satan and reconcile us to GOD

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KEY POINT

Can denote conflict/hostility between two people OR two people with different perspective-can be what happened here-Jesus looking at His purpose, Mary with the

immediate need; **wine is the messianic wine**; pivotal moment between Mary and her son-she will no longer be His mother but the woman of Genesis 3:15 (New Covenant)

Isiah 25: Imagery of Messianic age of festivity/win to describe future blessings of New Covenant era

Amos: Uses imager of new king coming to restore kingdom, *mountain shall drip sweet wine*...describes joy when Messiah comes to restore Israel

Simeon: Messiah will suffer and so will you (Mary)

"Do whatever he tells you": Mary's call to bring us back to profession of faith just as in Joshua 24 at the

renewal of their covenant relationship with GOD (*Whatever the Lord tells us, we will do.*), Neh 5: Israel

returning from exile/rebuilding the Temple; Gen 41:55-Pharoah tells servants to do whatever Joseph tells

them to do (Joseph only 30 yrs. old, Jesus only 30 yrs. old at Cana)

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KEY POINT

OBEDIENCE: Servants portrayed as faithful and model disciples as they trusted Jesus and did not hesitate to obey Him;

APPLICATION: Do whatever He tells you; TRUST HIM without hesitation