

42-Luke-Pt02-Transcript

the forum boat totally lost we we combed the neighborhood alone and you can find that within 20 minutes no so we called the police

it was a terrifying day for parents in North Tonawanda when two children wandered off into the woods and that terror turned into immense relief when officers came back with the little girls News 4's ed drantch shows us video the emotional reunion that you'll see only on 4 yeah it was an emotional day indeed neighbors were standing in their front yards watching this all unfold when we got there everyone was hugging shouting they've been found

Jennifer cars ran to be reunited with her three-year-old daughter Anastasia her bare feet slapping the sidewalk with each step welcome back to Wednesday night Bible study a time for us to gather around God's Word and good be refreshed in the middle of the week I'm looking forward to sharing the study with you this evening on Luke chapter 2 and as you saw in the opening video the relief that these parents experienced when their child was restored to them and we're going to see that here in chapter 2 with Mary and Joseph missing Jesus for a period of time and then having him restored to them and then engaging in what seems like a strange conversation from their child which has tremendous meaning for us so let's get into the study and see what happens here in Luke chapter 2 first a quick prayer our Father we bow before you and we acknowledge you and we thank you God for the wonderful privilege that we have to turn to these ancient scriptures to work

through them to understand them and in that regard father we just pray that you'll be with us that you'll open our eyes open our ears open our hearts to your word help us not only to understand it but to have it change our lives we thank you for this privilege Lord Lord when we we pray in Jesus name Amen when we met last week we covered Luke chapter one and just to go back over the last part of the chapter just so we don't break the flow and this is where Zechariah John's father had a vision and prophesied and so his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and noticed that the Holy Spirit is not new to the Jewish community and I think sometimes as Christians we think that the Jewish community had nothing to do with the Holy Spirit until Christ came and started the church and then Pentecost they began to interact with the Holy Spirit but that's just not true the Holy Spirit has always been a part of the life of Israel and they never worshiped the Holy Spirit and thought that it was God it was always the power of God and that's what it is and so here he was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied and he prophesied saying blessed is the Lord God of Israel and again I emphasized last week that any denomination any organization that tries to portray Christ and Christianity without Israel it's false that the Bible is a book about Israel that God's salvation is through Israel and that Christ came for Israel for a very specific purpose and Zachariah filled with the holy spirit understood this and so he says blessed is the Lord God of Israel the God of Israel thousands of times in the Old Testament God identifies himself as the God of Israel

not only in time past but forever he's
the God of Israel forever so you cannot
extract the God of the universe the
creator from Israel he's the God of
Israel and why is he so blessed for he
has visited and redeemed his people so
in understanding that Christ has come
into the world filled with the Holy
Spirit Zachariah understands that the
purpose for Christ's coming is to redeem
Israel and raised up a horn of
deliverance a horn of salvation for us
Israel Christ is for us
in the house of his servant David as
prophesied either the the Messiah would
come through David and sit on David's
throne as he has spoken by the mouth of
his holy prophets so any prophet that
comes along and does not align himself
or herself with the prophecies of the
ancient prophets there are false prophet
because all the prophets have spoken the
same thing that the Creator is going to
come into the earth and he's going to
deliver his people and and Zachariah
now is prophesying in accordance with
what all the other prophets have said
who have been since the world began that
we Israel should be saved from our
enemies and Israel has always been hated
because Satan hates God's plan and
because God has chosen this select group
Satan works in the hearts of men to
destroy these people and so the savior
has come finally to deliver them that we
should be saved from our enemies so
that's what salvation is salvation is
the Creator God redeeming his people and
saving them from their enemies that's
what salvation is it's redemption and so
he comes to save them from their enemies
and from the hand of everyone who hates
us from all who hate us he's our God and
he's going to deliver us to perform the

mercy promised to our fathers and I spent a lot of time last week on the importance of understanding that God is faithful it's impossible for him to lie and it's impossible for him not to fulfill his promises he would never break his promises so all of these promises in the Old Testament around God redeeming his people he is now acting to fulfill those promises and they're very specific promises and he's precisely acting to fulfill them to our fathers Israel's fathers and to remember his holy Covenant is covenant with Israel the oath which he swore to our father Abraham and we showed how not only did he promise

Abraham but he swore an oath on top of the promise that by two immutable things in which is impossible for God to lie either in the promise or in the oath it's impossible so these things must be fulfilled and we must believe in these covenant promises to grant us Israel that we Israel being delivered from the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear and this is the blessing this is why everybody needs to calm down if you're not Israel calm down because God is working to bless the whole world remember the Covenant promised to Abraham is that all families of the earth will be blessed in him and that he will be the father to many nations so all nations will come under Abraham and be a part of Abraham's family if they can submit to God's will if they can get their ego out of the way and accept that God has set up a nation for no other reason than this covenant promise that he has with Abraham and that this nation is a nation of priests and this nation is going to facilitate spreading God's salvation to the whole world so there's

no reason to hate Israel there's no reason to destroy Israel because you're hating and destroying your own salvation so God is acting through this promise to bless the whole world all families in the earth will be blessed if this nation can be set up to serve him without fear and this the Creator now is coming into the creation to deliver this nation of Israel to establish them as the priestly nation to bless the whole world in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of our life and and notice that the salvation full of the holy spirit Zechariah doesn't say oh great God has finally come so that we can all go to heaven and we can sit on clouds and play harps and and worship our Lord that's Platonism that is a platonic ideology that that has infiltrated itself into the Christian Church but has got nothing to do with salvation salvation has everything to do with God coming to earth redeeming his people on the earth establishing them as king priests on the earth to serve Him on the earth and and that's that's the salvation full of the Holy Spirit that Zachariah saw and that he was looking forward to with Christ coming into the earth and now he talks about his son John and you John you child will be called the prophet of the highest so you are the Prophet to the Messiah before the Messiah for you will go before the face of the Lord and again we looked last week at the prophesied prophecies of malachi the last prophet to speak to israel before 400 years of silence to say that when this messenger comes the lord is coming to his temple right afterwards so you'll go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways to give knowledge of salvation to his

people so when Christ comes he's coming to his people he's coming to Israel he's not coming to the whole world he's coming to Israel and so John is telling Israel prepare for your Lord he's coming now

by the remission of their sins so it's because of their sins that they were pushed out of the land it's because of their cells sins that they've been subjugated and oppressed and now according to the Covenant promise and they the terms and conditions they have to be obedient they have to repent of all of this sin in order for them to be restored and so Christ is going to come now

to it to enable this but John is gonna go before them and call them to repentance

through the tender mercy of our God with which the Dayspring from on high has visited us

so that is Zechariah's prophecy now of christ's coming to the earth and john preceding him and now we come to luke chapter 2 and it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus so Caesar is this emperor of the Roman Empire are basically ruling the known world and he sends out a decree to his empire which which again is the known world and you can just sort of see here what

expansion of the Roman Empire and so he sends out this decree that all the world should be registered and again that's that's the the Roman Empire the what basically the known civilized world at the time that they should be registered and and what that means is he's taking a census and this is a very very detailed exercise where every single individual in the Empire has to be accounted for

and one of the ways they do that is to have everybody go back to their place of origin so that they can then account for everybody and this is no small thing when when we say that we're taking a census there's two reasons why number one is we need to tax everybody real Rome is about tax it's it's about gather it's a money-making machine the same that all roads lead to Rome well the reason is all the money has to be collected and come back to the Treasury and all of these kingdoms of the earth all of these Gentile kingdoms they're all money-making machines they're all money grabbing machines they're all about wealth in this world because they've got nothing else and that's one of the one of the clues we can look for and the Empire that established itself that is oppressive and that that grabs money this comes from the devil and so he's setting up this decree and I don't know you know if you were in the UK when Margaret Thatcher was in power she had something or she tried to implement something called the poll tax and I'll tell you that that did not go over very well people hated it and there were riots and all kinds of protests around this this burden that people had to bear of this poll tax and and it actually was her demise but when you're the Emperor of a powerful Empire like the Roman Empire then the fact that people are unhappy too bad and people were unhappy and there was there was a movement among the Jews that tried to resist this so that's one reason is taxation and the second is military servus we need to know all of the men of fighting age so that if we do have to go to battle we know who we can recruit and so it's a form of oppression and it's a

form of the emperor flexing his muscles and showing that he in fact is in command and it's really in this context that Christ comes into the the lives of the people of Israel where they're being oppressed and they're under this burden and Jesus Christ is coming to redeem them from their enemies and so this census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria and this is a controversial verse in the text that while they're doing this census people take exception to the fact that Luke says that it took place while Quirinius was governing Syria and they can go back through the records and say that this is incorrect that that Karia s-- was in fact not yet the emperor of Syria so clearly this the the gospel is unreliable and and that is absolutely false this is Luke this is a professional who is a very well-educated very meticulous very detailed everything he says is so accurate that I think that we need to give him some benefit of the doubt here the other thing I'll say here is when you look at the Greek when you're moving from one language to another so as we move from Greek to English the translators have to make a lot of judgment calls around how they will make the translation and an equally valid translation from the Greek into the English would be that this census first took place before Herod the Great was governing Syria equally valid and fits very clearly with Luke's accuracy so I think the atheists and the de critics who want to discredit Luke look at the Greek and look at the overall writing of Luke and let's give him some credit in the

Videli so all went to be registered everyone to his own his own City and so

you'll see here that Joseph and Mary were it were in Nazareth but they're actually from Bethlehem and and so it says here so everyone had to go back to his own City Joseph also went up from Galilee out of the city of Nazareth into Judea to the City of David which is called Bethlehem because he was of the house and lineage of David so you can see here it's brought of things about 80 miles that they had to travel and get to Bethlehem in order to afford the census to be taken and the reason that they had to do that was that Joseph was descended from David and so he had to go back to the City of David where he was from and verse 5 to be registered with Mary his betrothed wife wife so he's now engaged to her to be married who was with child and so even though she's pregnant and you would never do this you know the fact that she was pregnant with child they would stay in Nazareth but both of them their lineage both of them are descended from David and so they had to go back to the City of David Bethlehem where they were from and even though she's pregnant she had to do this because basically a Caesar Augustus Caesar was throwing his weight around and and bullying and showing that he's in absolute control and while he's doing that verse 6 it says so it was that while they were there the days were completed for her to be delivered so so Wow so she was pregnant she had to go back to Bethlehem and while they were in Bethlehem that's when she delivered the child and and what Augustus Caesar is actually doing is fulfilling a prophecy that was prophesied by Micah 750 years earlier think about that 750 years before Christ was born

maika gives a very specific prophecy about where the Messiah will be born in this little town is a little small village called Bethlehem which not even on the map and he's so specific in 750 years later Augustus Caesar forces this pregnant woman to have to go back to her place of origin and it fulfills a prophecy that was given very specifically 750 years earlier so I would say to the atheist how do you what do you think about that and how do you explain that so here's the prophecy in Micah but you Bethlehem Ephrathah though you are little among the thousands of Judah yet out of you shall come forth to me the one to be ruler in Israel whose going forth are from old from everlasting 750 years earlier this was Micah's prophecy very specific Augustus Caesar comes on the scene I'm gonna tax everybody we need to run a census everybody go back to your place of origin Mary's pregnant Joseph has to take his pregnant wife to Bethlehem the child is born in Bethlehem fulfills this prophecy we serve an amazing God back to Luke verse 7 and she brought forth her firstborn son so Luke is now writing she's had other children in this notion that Mary only had one child and was always a virgin it is false Christ had brothers possibly sisters as well and she brought forth her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in would be like a feeding trough because there was no room for them in the end and this also last week I said how it was clear by tracing the courses of the Levite priests that it was obvious that it was impossible that Christ was born on December 25th it was most likely born in the fall and most likely born on

around Tabernacles are on Tabernacles
with Tabernacle meaning to dwell with
and his name being meaning that God
Emmanuel God dwells with us but here now
because there was no room in the inn it
also shows that this was a time of the
festival and because everybody sort of
discerned

Judah and the surrounding towns
everything everything is full and so it
might have been that might have been as
well why there was no room in the end
but now there were in the same country
Shepherds living out in the fields and
this also shows that it wasn't winter
because shepherds wouldn't have their
flock in the fields in the winter so a
Gannett reinforces that Christ was born
in the fall now that we're in the same
country Shepherds living out in the
fields keeping watch over their flock by
night and what's so cool here is these
fields would have been the very fields
that King David as a shepherd would have
been tending his flock and so here they
are attending these flock and these
sheep that they're looking after most
likely are for the temple sacrifices and
so so they're looking after the flock in
the field part of the Passover lambs and
the tabernacle lambs that their lives
that are sacrificed for offerings and
behold an angel of the Lord stood before
them so again watch what happens when
when the Angels interact with human
beings these powerful angels and this
angel stood before them and the glory of
the Lord shone around them and they were
greatly afraid everybody who encounters
these angelic beings is afraid initially
then how the angels interact with them
is the key to whether or not it's an
angel of God or a demon pretending to be
an angel then then the angel said to

them do not be afraid do not be afraid
fear not constantly consistently every
time these powerful beings interact with
human beings on God's behalf the first
words out of their mouth are don't be
afraid do not be afraid for behold I
bring you good news great news good news
of exceeding joy which will be to all
people and again is what I was saying
earlier people are really upset that God
has chosen Israel and not them but the
fact that God has chosen Israel is good
news for all people and Luke understands
this and Luke is a Gentile and he
was the companion to Paul who was the
apostle to the Gentiles and he
understood very clearly how
this gospel message had to get out to
the Gentiles and how the Gentiles were
being grafted into Israel and that
that's part of Israel they would be part
of this priestly nation to bring
salvation to the whole world and so this
is good news for all people for there is
born unto you that is again Israel this
day in the City of David a savior who is
Messiah the Lord so this is the Lord and
then that's what's happened today and
this will be the sign to you you will
find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths
lying in a food trough so so this is the
this is the creator and a lot of
people have have trouble with this that
God would become human well you know
what he didn't just become human he
became human in a town of no
significance there was no room in the
inn so he was in it was actually put in
a food trough as a crib and this is our
creator and people have trouble with
this because they have these pagan ideas
that God has to be all-powerful and
crushing it has to be this powerful
irresistible god of force and and Christ

is coming to do the opposite to show a way of humility to show a way of love to show a way of caring and setting up a kingdom on very different principles than the pagan people pagan kings and then the pagan religions and so yeah our God our God all of mankind's God became a man and came in the most humbling of circumstances and really came with no reputation that's our God that's our God and he died for us he suffered for us and this is what people have to get their heads around and this is why we have to be so familiar with the Old Testament text because Christ comes and fulfills every single one of them precisely and so this is just being born in Bethlehem is a very precise text that Christ is high school filled so he says here and suddenly there was with the angel so so this angel is talking to the shepherds in the field and telling them about this good news and then suddenly with the angel there was a heavenly host praising God saying glory to God in the highest and on earth peace goodwill to all men so there was an army a host an army of angels with this angel and they didn't they're not coming to fight they're coming to glorify God and offer peace and goodwill from God toward men so God is very very loving very very kind and despite man's sinfulness God is now acting to extend loving-kindness to man to Israel first and then to all mankind and so despite Israel's faithlessness and again we have to read the Old Testament text to just see how incredibly faithless Israel was and despite the covenant that says you know if you are faithful I'll bless you in this way in this way but if you're unfaithful I'll curse you in this way

and God is faithful to the Covenant the terms and conditions so Israel had to incur all of these curses but now out of his good will out of his kindness he sends Christ as the representative for Israel to be that perfect obedient Israelite so that God through him can now relieve the curses the Deuteronomic curses and can bring Israel if they will accept Christ as their Savior can bring Israel back into the land and establish them as the nation of priests to facilitate salvation for the whole world so God is acting out of loving-kindness now to send his son and for his son willingly to be brutalized in order to take the curses of the Deuter of Deuteronomy and remove them from Israel and relieve them to be the propitiation so it was when the Angels had gone away from them into heaven that the Shepherd's said to one another let us now I mean they couldn't believe it let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass which the Lord has made known to us so this is another thing as well is that these Shepherds are lowly people like him Egypt that you know the Romans society didn't think much of these Shepherds that kind of saw them as dirty people and and God sends his angels to they're the first ones to really receive this news outside of the immediate family and so they're the ones who have this honor of receiving this good news and so that it's been made known to them and so an interesting as well that they keep sheep and responsible for the sacrifice of the Lambs and the real Lamb of God is presented to them first the good news of the Lamb of God and they came with haste you can imagine them sprinting from the

fields into Bethlehem to find out what is this thing that has happened and they found Mary and Joseph and the babe God coming as a baby and notice he comes into this nuclear family and there's so much being done in our society today to destroy the family Satan knows what he's doing and God knows what he's doing and we've got to restore the Christian family the Christian family we've got to restore our Family Values because people are shaped inside a family and Satan knows that and that's why he's done everything he can destroy the family and so they found the mother and the father and the baby lying in this feeding trough as a crib now when they had seen him they made widely-known the same which was told them concerning this child so they told everybody this is the Savior this is good news this Savior is going to redeem Israel and all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds but Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart so she had part of the story and Gabriel had to had come to her and told her part of the story and Zachariah is now speaking he's telling her part of the story but the Shepherd's now are coming with this great news and kind of filling her in with the rest of the story and so she is now keeping this in her heart and it kind of alludes back to Joseph when when he heard his father Jacob heard Joseph talking that he would would come to rulership and and through his rulership he would save Israel and and Jacob heard this thing and sounded like preposterous but he kept it in his heart and so now Mary's pondering these things in the you know is Christ going to follow the same path to rise up to prominence as a king

and then deliver his people then the Shepherd's returned glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen as it was told them and no doubt they were cross-referencing the scriptures and seeing that this is by the book by the dotting the is crossing the t's it's very specific and so now we see that when eight days were completed for the circumcision of the child and notice then here that they are very careful this is a believing family they're very careful to follow the law and so the child is born and they're counting the eight days to know that they have to circumcise and to show the sign of the covenant for the circumcision of the child that's when his name then was called Jesus which means God saves Joshua the name given by the angel Gabriel before he was conceived in the womb so even before he was conceived Gabriel told Mary this is what you'll call the child and so on the eighth day she knew that and she then called him Jesus now when the days of her purification notice will loop is careful to write according to the law of this work completed so very righteous family following very carefully the scriptures and the law of Moses the Torah when this time was completed they brought him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord so they didn't just bring him to Jerusalem there in Bethlehem and they're waiting for her purification period to be completed and if we go to Leviticus 12 we'll see that period then the Lord spoke to Moses saying speak to the children of Israel saying if a woman has conceived and born a male child then she shall be unclean seven days as in the

days of her customary impurity she shall be unclean and on the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised so these people are very familiar with the Torah and they're following a business there's always a faithful remnant and even though Israel has been faithless there's always a faithful remnant this is the faithful remnant now she shall continue in the blood so on the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised she shall then continue in the blood of her purification another thirty-three days so it's you know forty days or 41 days and all before she's purified and so she's waiting for this time to be complete she shall not touch any hallowed things so there's no point going to Jerusalem while she's in this impure state so they're following the datura nor come into the sanctuary until the days of her purification are fulfilled

so she's waiting for that verse 23 back to Luke 2 as it is written in the law of the Lord every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord and so this is her first child she the Christ innocence opens the womb for her and so Christ is holy to the Lord and that's coming from Exodus in the Torah Exodus 13 then the Lord spoke to Moses saying consecrate to me all the firstborn whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel both man and beast it is mine

and so they're being very faithful to this text back to Luke - and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord so now in addition to this they have to come with a sacrifice and Luke writes here that it's a pair of turtledoves or two young

pigeons so this is what Mary and Joseph would be offering for their sacrifice now this is coming from Leviticus 12 and in verse eight of Leviticus 12 it says and if she is not able to bring a lamb in other words if she is poor if she doesn't have the wherewithal to sacrifice a lamb no problem everybody is able to sacrifice according to their their means and so from this sacrifice that she made with two turtledoves we know that Mary and Joseph were not wealthy so Christ comes into the world and he doesn't come as a great king he doesn't come to the richest family he comes to this very humble couple who don't have a lot and so she is sacrificing turtledoves if she's not able to bring a lamb then she may bring two turtledoves or two young pigeons one is a burnt offering and the other is a sin offering so the priest shall make atonement for her and she will be clean so she's going through he's gone through her purification she then brings that this is what she can afford so she brings this to the to Jerusalem and that's her sacrifice back to the - his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover so that's that's gonna come later I just dropped down to verse 41 just to show you that these are not wealthy people and yet there are clearly faithful people because every single year they make the trip to Jerusalem even though they're it's very clear they're not the people so back up to where we were in verse 25 verse 25 and behold there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon and this man was just and devout so so within now they get to Jerusalem there's this man there named Simeon and he's also of the faithful remnant he was

just and devout what was he doing this
faithful man this is this very clearly
faithful man just and devout very very
careful to obey the law and the Torah
what was he doing he was waiting for the
consolation of Israel I mean this
religion that people have made up that
Christ came so that we can all go to
heaven sorry you've got to show me where
does Luke ever write this it's very
clear that Christ came to these faithful
people who were reading the text and
we're looking for their Savior to redeem
them on the earth not to take them to
heaven and so here he is he's you know
they're being burdened and oppressed
they've got Herod over them they've got
the Caesar Augustus Caesar over them
they're being abused they're probably
seeing loved ones crucified it's
horrible to seeing loved ones having to
go to war they just can't practice and
serve God without fear and here he's
waiting for the consolation the comfort
of Israel because that's what's in the
scriptures and the Holy Spirit was upon
him again notice the Holy Spirit is not
new it's not like they all Trinity and
they need to be taught about the Holy
Spirit they're very familiar with the
Holy Spirit Holy Spirit was upon him
now this comfort that he's looking for
if we look at Isaiah we see a prophecy
that he would be looking at comfort yes
comfort my people despite the fact that
they are faithless despite the fact that
they are being persecuted abused and
oppressed give them comfort says your
God speak comfort to Jerusalem
and Simeon was in Jerusalem and seeing
just the the oppression that the Jews
are under and he's looking at this
prophecy of Isaiah and he's saying it's
got to come he's looking for this

comfort speak comfort to Israel and cry
out to her that her warfare is ended
that her iniquity is pardoned well how
is that going to happen through Christ
her iniquity Christ is the Passover and
so her iniquity is pardoned for she has
received from the Lord's hand double for
all her sins and that's according to the
covenant she received that yet if we
look in a fifty-two this same Jerusalem
is told by the Prophet break forth into
joy sing together you waste places of
Jerusalem so although the pagan
oppressors have come in and wasted you
don't lose hope and don't lose heart
rejoice you waste places of Jerusalem
for the Lord has finally acted and the
Lord has comforted his people and again
any kind of ideology or religion or
denomination that wants to just extract
Israel from the narrative is false
because the whole purpose of the Messiah
coming is to comfort his people he has
redeemed Jerusalem he's redeemed
Jerusalem means and Jerusalem is
enslaved and and the slave needs to be
purchased and then set free he has
redeemed Jerusalem the Lord has made
bare his holy arm in the eyes of all
nations so yeah all nations have to see
that Jerusalem is holy and so Simeon
knows these texts and knows that God is
faithful and this is what he's looking
for and all the ends of the earth shall
see the salvation of our God so all the
earth wait for it
all the earth is going to say God is the
God of Israel and and really you know
warning to anybody who wants to make up
false gods and try to destroy Israel or
destroy the church
you've got the God of Israel to contend
with and we believe like Simeon in these
scriptures that God will finally act and

in fact he already has the fact that Christ is coming to the world means it's all it's all in motion now it's all in motion now and is just a matter of time as our world spins out of control it's just a matter of time so back to Luke chapter 2 this is what Simeon would have been looking at and so he says here and it has been revealed or it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit not that he would go to heaven but the Holy Spirit told him that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah so he would not die until he could see how Israel was going to be redeemed from their enemies and so that's what he was so the Holy Spirit told him that he's there in in Jerusalem he's advanced in age and he's praying and he's waiting and he's watching and he knows that God is faithful and and and he's not going to die before he sees the Messiah so he came by the spirit into the temples of the temple that the spirit encouraged him when Mary and Joseph and Christ were in the temple spirit then encouraged him to go so he then came into the temple and when the parents brought in the Child Jesus to do for him according to the custom of the law he took him up in his arms and blessed God he recognized him right away so he took the child Jesus in his arms and said Lord now you are letting your servant depart in peace so so now he can die in peace having seen the Messiah according to your word and this again is what I was emphasizing so much and we looked at chapter 1 it's all about God's Word and again we see these false religions that say you know it's okay to lie that could never come from God because God takes his words seriously every single thing

that he says
he means and in fact we will be judged
by using words that we don't mean you
know so every word that we speak that is
false will be judged for that because
God takes words seriously in fact when a
couple marries the the bond is created
by their word they make a vow to each
other and that's a covenant vow and God
expects faithfulness to that vow and its
words even on the contract you sign it's
words words matter and they matter a
great deal to God and so he is Simeon
sees that wow this is exactly what God
said specifically for my eyes have seen
your salvation it's all in motion now I
have seen now how Israel will be
redeemed I've seen the king that will
topple Caesar I've seen the king that
will topple Herod and and it's
interesting that Herod is going to
behead John and Caesar is going to
crucify Christ but it's actually in
Christ's crucifixion that there is
triumph that thought that's what people
don't understand that this triumph
begins at the crucifixion at the lowest
point is that actually the highest the
beginning of the highest point some of
my eyes have seen your salvation which
you have prepared before the faces of
all peoples and that's exactly what
Isaiah said that that Israel will be
comforted in the face of all peoples a
light to bring revelation to the
Gentiles even Simeon understood this and
everybody hates the fact that God has
chosen a people and especially if it's
not them and even the people that God
has chosen
they even curse God because they don't
understand why they have to go through
something like the Holocaust a lot in
fact because of the Holocaust a lot of

Jews became atheists and said there's no way there's a God we would never have to go through something like this yet if they read the Covenant agreement the terms and conditions of that agreement they would see that God is faithful God is faithful and so Israel now is a blessing to the whole world the whole world will come into Israel the whole world will be part of the family of Abraham and so it was very clear to Simeon this is this is the Christ this is the Messiah who is going to relieve Israel and at the same time bring revelation to the Gentiles and again a lot of Jews and Jews today and even Israelites who realize they are part of Israel even though God divorced the northern tribes there's this haughtiness and and you know sense it with with the Jews they talk about Gentiles as if there are second-class citizens and the Gentile just means other nations and this nation has been set aside to serve those nations and to bring them to God I like to bring revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel and so again it spits this is this is an Israel narrative it's it's a love affair between God and his bride Israel and so the glory of Israel is actually the light to the Gentiles and that's quoting now he's realizing this is the text in Isaiah what Isaiah prophesied I the LORD have called you in righteousness and will hold your hand I will keep you that's Christ and give you as a covenant to the people has a light to the Gentiles so I'm covenant to Israel and a light to the Gentiles and in Isaiah 49 verse 6 indeed he says it is too small a thing that you should be my servant to raise

up the tribes of Jacob again he comes to raise up the tribes of Jacob and we got to emphasize this because there's so much false religions out there that are replacing Israel replacing Jacob or trying to destroy Jacob where Christ came the Messiah is coming to Jacob and to raise up the tribes of Jacob all 12 of them and to restore the preserved ones of Israel that's the purpose of it of him coming is through restore the preserved ones of Israel also I will also give you as a light to the Gentiles so we just have to get our head around this that the establishment of Israel as the godly nation as the priestly nation is a blessing to the world everybody benefits everybody benefits from this covenant love that God has with Israel and that's what we have to get our head around and it's a good thing that God has chosen a people otherwise all of us would be lost and so here Israel is going to be preserved so that Christ can be a light to the Gentiles that you should be my salvation to the ends of the earth so Julian and Luke understands this very clearly Christ is a blessing to Jew and Greek to Jew and Gentile back to Luke this is what Simeon would be understanding and Joseph and his mother marveled at those things which were spoken of him so they're listening to Simeon in the temple what he's saying then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother behold so this now is a prophet he's filled with the Holy Spirit he says behold this child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel Christ is going to be a polarizing figure and and Simeon sees this that when the Messiah comes yes there's this faithful remnant that's

going to respond positively to him but within Israel there's also this remnant that are going to be destroyed they're going to be exposed and and in that exposure they're going to be lost and so he tells Mary Christ is a polarizing figure he's destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel and for a sign which will be spoken against yes a sword will pierce through your own soul also so he's telling even Mary you're gonna have to be examined and see where you stand with the with respect to the Messiah because he's going to be again this polarizing figure this disruptive figure in society and people are going to have to decide where they stand so even Mary says a sword will also pierce through your own soul also that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed so Simeon sees very clearly who this child is that this is the creator this is the Messiah and now he knows how Israel will be redeemed but he also knows it's gonna be a rough road it's gonna be a rough road and so he's telling Mary look get ready now there was one Anna a prophetess the daughter of the tribe of Asher she was of great age so there's this woman who's of great age and had lived with her husband seven years from her virginity so so she was a young girl when she was married then another seven years she was she was married and then from that point this woman was a widow about eighty-four years after that so I don't know if she was let's just say she was married at 17 24 and then 84 on top of that so this woman is well advanced in age over probably over 100 years old and who did not depart from the temple so for eighty-four years as a widow she did not depart from the temple Simeon is

in the temple prophesying acknowledging that Christ is fulfilling these prophecies she now comes over but serve God with fastings and prayers night and day so again she would be very familiar with the scriptures and the prophecies and would be fasting and praying and praying toward the fulfillment of the prophecies and coming in that instant so the very instant when Simeon explains to Mary what to prepare for she comes in and she gave thanks to the Lord and spoke of him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem again tell me where it shows in the passages that Christ has come so that we can all go to heaven this is very God is very specific he has sent the Messiah to redeem Israel he sent them a diet Messiah for those who are looking for Jerusalem to be comforted so when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord they then returned to Galilee to their own city Nazareth to remember they were in Bethlehem all this time then they were in Jerusalem and now the you know the census is complete the the purification is complete the dedication is complete and now they can go back to Nazareth but all of that happened so that the child could be born in Bethlehem later on people are going to challenge him thinking that he's from Galilee but he was actually born in Bethlehem and the child would grow and become strong in spirit and filled with wisdom and the grace of God was upon him so he's now growing up and clearly a very special child his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast and that's where I was showing earlier although they're not wealthy they're clearly devout and very clearly dedicated and so every year they go to

Jerusalem at the Feast of the Passover and when he was 12 years old so this is now the twelfth year that they've been doing this they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast when they had finished the days as they returned the boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem so he is not 12 years old and they're all gone and he's staying behind in Jerusalem and Joseph and his mother didn't realize it but supposing him to have been with the company so that some sort of Caravan and you know children run around play with other children and so they just figure okay he's in the caravan and they're heading out they went a day's journey and then for whatever reason after a day has gone by they're there they're needing to find him maybe they just want to check in with him or something so they sought him among their relatives and acquaintances so they clearly went up as a family and a close-knit group of friends and you know have you seen Jesus have you seen Jesus said you know the different people are you have you seen Jesus no so when they did not find him they returned to Jerusalem seeking Him asking have you seen our young son Jory's remember Jesus now so it was and again you can imagine the the terror the panic as a parent when you're missing your child and we saw that in the opening clip it's a horrible feeling when you realize you've you you've lost your child you can only imagine anything could have happened and so they're seeking him you know anxiously now so it was after three days so they're going up and down and all around and then after three days they finally get into the temple and they find him there and now so it was that

after three days they found him in the temple sitting in the midst of the teachers so all of the teachers everybody's now gone so he's probably sitting through the Passover services and he's listening to the teachers and what they have to say and probably had a few questions and what is some clarification and wanted to see what the run maybe test their understanding because he's been studying the scriptures since he was a child or a younger child and so everybody's gone and this is now four days later and he's still there every day with them maybe sleeping with them getting up talking some more trying to understand how do they understand this passage who do they think this is this servant who who is the scripture talking about so he's there with them both listening to them and asking them questions and and no doubt the questions were probably even teaching questions but probably also clarification questions really trying to get at what's their understanding here and just sort of seeing what do people believe about these scriptures and all who heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers so so not only was he asking them question they were asking him questions as well and this is a 12 year old child they've just gone through the feast of Passover they've been doing all the teaching and now they realize that this child has such a rich in-depth understanding of the scriptures and it is astonishing they've never seen anything like this so when they saw him they were amazed so the parents now finally find him and he's right in the middle of the temple and they're just astonished that the engagement that he has with the teachers and and the fact

that he's oblivious to their suffering
they have been killing themselves with
worry and and he seems oblivious to it
so I might remember again the relief in
the opening clip when the parents found
their sheep their children so here they
find Christ this is a huge relief and
they're astonished and and Mary says
them son why have you done this to us I
mean you know we had no idea look your
father and I have sought you anxiously
they've you know for three days they
probably didn't even sleep and he said
to them why did you seek me I don't
understand why were you looking for me
did you not know that I must be about my
father's business so he fully expected
them at 12 years old now that he's 12
they fully fully expected them to
understand that he should be about his
father's business what is that business
so Joseph was carpenter does that mean
he had to be about carpentry who was his
father and what's his father's business
and this is where I said earlier if you
look at Isaiah 55 verse 11 God takes his
words seriously so shall my word be that
goes forth from my mouth it shall not
return to me void there is no way that
the God the creator of the universe says
something and then it doesn't come to
pass what God says comes to pass and so
Christ was in the temple with the
teachers understanding trying to get
that in the scriptures and get some
clarification of the scriptures why
because the scriptures are God's Word
and God's business is about fulfilling
his word and so Christ has come to sit
on the throne of his father David and
that is God's word he needs to sit on
that throne forever and so his business
is to understand what is God's word
because he now has come into the earth

to bring God's Word to pass because when
God speaks it can never be
branded God's Word can never be
abrogated so he's like you gotta
understand I must be about my father's
business but the word shall not return
to me a void but it shall accomplish
what I please nobody can resist God's
work and this is why Simeon and all the
faithful followers of the Lord they we
look at the scriptures and we believe
the Scriptures might not happen today
might not happen tomorrow but nobody can
stop it from happening even the powerful
Roman Emperor cannot stop God's Word
from fulfilling and all of this is
happening in the midst of the Roman
Empire in the midst of the Herodian
dynasty and so here it shall accomplish
what I please and it shall prosper in
the thing for which I sent it and here's
here's the word if we look at Isaiah 9
verse 6 for unto us a child is born no
doubt this would have been one of the
Scriptures he would be asking them where
who is this child unto us a son is given
and again the US is Israel unto us
Israel a child is born and unto us
Israel a son is given us the son isn't
given to the Gentiles the son is given
to Israel and the government will be
upon his shoulder and his name shall be
called wonderful counselor mighty God so
you might be asking them all you know
how can this son that's given to Israel
be mighty God and in their reasoning
with him and trying to explain and maybe
the way he's asking the questions in
this perhaps the Socratic method is
getting them to understand that this
must be fulfilled and and maybe they
should consider this child that's in
front of them is this child and he shall
be called the everlasting father the

Prince of Peace of the increase of his government his government not these Gentile governments but this righteous government of the increase of his government of peace there will be no end upon the throne of David this is his father's business to establish this government upon the throne of David and over his kingdom to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward and forever the zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this God is zealous for his word God will accomplish his word with the zeal he sees will be the outcome the end result of what God is doing is so phenomenal God his soul can take him with this plan of salvation that with zeal he's going to accomplish this and you'll remember Luke is writing two volumes that this is gonna be fulfilled in acts 2 when Peter stands up and says let me speak to you freely of the patriarch David and he then shows how Christ comes as the fruit of David's body to establish this throne we'll go back to to Luke 2 but again in in Acts when Peter stands up it's all about fulfilling God's Word and fulfilling the promise that God made to David and the promise that God made to Abraham and that's his business that's what Christ must be about understanding the word so that he can ensure that he fulfills it to the tee and you'll see as we go through the gospel that there are many things that Christ makes his decisions so that the prophets can be fulfilled back to Luke 2 in verse 50 and they did not understand the statement which he spoke to them so the parents just didn't get it then he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was subject to them so it's not that he was rebellious but

he had to be about his father's business
they didn't understand he went back with
them and he was a good child he was
obedient to his parents but his mother
kept all these things in her heart and
remember in verse 19 earlier when when
the Shepherd's came she pondered them in
her heart

and this should allude to or make us
think of Joseph and Jacob his father so
so you know what is this dream you have
dreamed in verse 10 shall we be subject
to you and and his brothers envied him
in verse 11 but his father kept the
matter in mind or in his heart so
responding the same way the same way
that Joseph would rise to be a ruler and
out of his reign he would be able to
save Israel and so in the same way
mary is now keeping this matter in her
heart and then is this this christ that
gonna have the same path to rise up in
israel as a ruler that will enable
israel to be to be saved verse 51 then
he went down with them and came to
Nazareth and was subject to them but his
mother kept these things in her heart
and then verse 52 and Jesus increased in
wisdom and stature and in favor with God
and all men so that is the end of
chapter 2 and just very quickly what
I'll mention is you know we see so
clearly that and this is Luke he's
writing to the Gentiles and look how
carefully is to show how Israel's
narrative is being fulfilled how the
redemption is for Israel and from Israel
to the whole world and how specifically
God is coming to fulfill all of the
prophets in the ancient text and the
angel Gabriel and the messengers when
they come and when the various people
are filled with the Holy Spirit
they're always quoting the ancient text

and there's this full integration
between the New Testament and the
writers of the New Testament and how
they're inspired by the Holy Spirit and
how the prophets of old also inspired by
the Holy Spirit there's this full
integration and because we have lost our
way
we don't believe this anymore and yet
Lucas taking pains to be so precise for
Theophilus and by extension to us and we
don't care most people aren't biblically
illiterate and if you stop the average
person on the street and ask them
anything about this narrative yeah it
wasn't Jesus a baby in a manger
somewhere and there were shepherds and
very unclear about what's actually in
the text and this week just this week or
actually say last week a Scottish
Cathedral allowed the reading of the
Quran in their service in their service
and and you know it was it was read in
Arabic and because most people have no
idea what's in the Koran
she was actually reading a
text that denied God the Christ is
departing you can actually deny his
divinity and so this is what happens
where people become epically illiterate
and allow people to come in right in the
midst of their service I could say more
but I just on time I'll leave it there
and just say it's so important for us to
be knowledgeable of our scriptures
because there's clearly a movement to
destroy Christianity and to destroy the
judeo-christian values that built the
Western civilization so the East has
been overtaken by his lamb so all of the
Christians in the East are basically
destroyed or subjugated and because of
Paul's work the gospel came into the
West and also because of Constantine he

adopted Christianity even though it was false Christianity but he adopted the Christian texts and made Christianity the official religion and because of that Christianity basically spread through Western civilization so Eastern civilization is basically fundamentally Muslim today Western civilization was built based on Christian values and ethics but there is a movement to destroy the judeo-christian foundation of the West and with that to destroy the family and all of us have to work hard to understand these scriptures to teach them to others to show them the beauty on the power of these scriptures and do all we can to remain faithful to the text so I certainly hope you enjoyed going through the chapter - I have to mention to you that I'm traveling next week so I won't be covering Luke chapter 3

next week we'll resume the midweek Bible study in two weeks so not next week we'll come back to Luke chapter 3 the week after next thanks so much for joining remember Jesus Christ is our Lord and our say
god bless