

“Born Under The Law”

Luke 2:21-24

August 15, 2021

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22 And when the days for their purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord

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"),

24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what was said in the Law of the Lord, "A PAIR OF TURTLEDOWNS OR TWO YOUNG PIGEONS,"

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.

26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

27 And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law,

28 then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said,

29 "Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, According to Your word;

30 For my eyes have seen Your salvation,

31 Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

32 A LIGHT OF REVELATION TO THE GENTILES,

And the glory of Your people Israel."

Three legal ceremonies that needed to take place after the birth of a child in these 4 verses: (first was done locally, the latter two in the Temple)

1. There was the ceremony of circumcision for a male child.
 2. There was the ceremony of purification. This was a ceremony Mary had to go through.

3. There was the ceremony of dedication to the Lord (Luke 2:23; cp. Exodus 13:2, 12, 15; Leviticus 27:6; Numbers 18:15-16). A male child was presented (dedicated) in the temple when the family was close to Jerusalem.

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Ceremony #1 - Circumcision

• Circumcision involves 2 covenants:

1. Abrahamic Covenant – 2 things it means: 1. You are a Jew.
 2. You are identified as a person with Israel, the covenant people of God. This made a believer eligible for covenant blessings.

2. Mosaic Covenant – you submit to the Law. Both Jew and Gentile who wished to become a part of the commonwealth of Israel.

• Jesus' parents obeyed the Law first by having the child circumcised when He was eight days old.

• Why was Jesus circumcised?

1. To identify Him as a Jew in the Abrahamic Covenant.

Matt 1:1

1 The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham:

2. Because that's what the Law of God required.

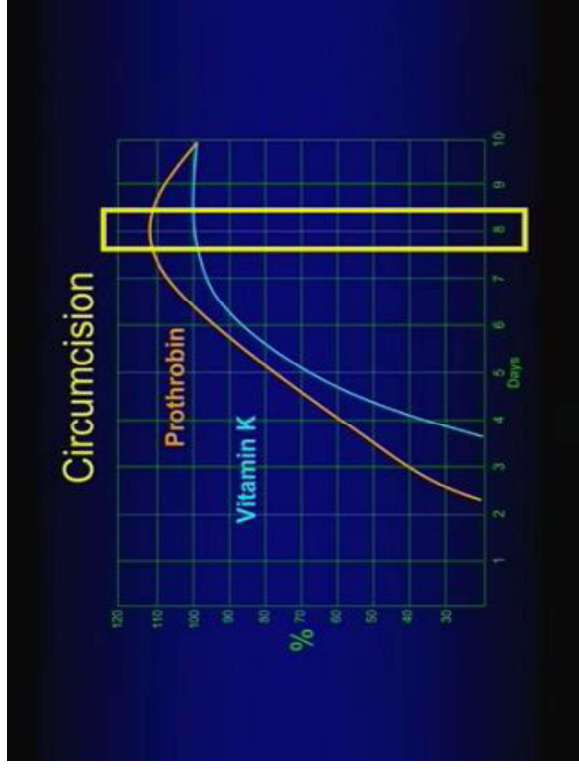
- Circumcision was absolutely necessary before the Lord Jesus could be heard as a teacher in Israel.
- Without it he would have had no place in any lawful Jewish assembly, and no right to any Jewish ordinance.
- Without it He would have been regarded by all Jews as nothing more than an uncircumcised Gentile.

Circumcision did not take place in the temple in Jerusalem. And Joseph himself probably performed the circumcision.

This was Jesus' fulfillment of the laws of Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers.

Prothrombin is a protein produced by your liver. It is one of many factors in your blood that help it to clot appropriately.

- Both prothrombin and Vitamin K, used by the body for clotting, are at their highest on the 8th day.



Circumcision

Gen 17:10-12, 14

10 "This is My covenant, which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: every male among you shall be circumcised.

11 "And you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskin, and it shall be the sign of the covenant between Me and you.

12 "And every male among you who is eight days old shall be circumcised throughout your generations,

14 "But an uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, that person shall be cut off from his people; he has broken My covenant."

- Circumcision was not done for salvation but for identity. It put you in a place where you could be saved and blessed.
- **Note:** Moses was circumcised on the eighth day and was named on the eighth day. Abraham's name went from Abram to Abraham on the day that he was circumcised

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Gal 4:4-5

4 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, **born under the Law**,

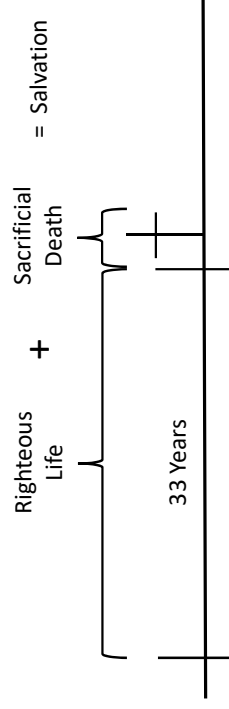
5 so that He might redeem those who were under the Law,

- God sets up the standard, sets up the "bar", and then He meets the standard.

There will be no surprises in the courtroom, the GWTI. All "i"'s were dotted and all "t"'s were crossed. Jesus did not miss a thing to be qualified to give us perfect righteousness.

- Jesus was an "eighth day Savior." No circumcision – no Savior.

- We are thankful Mary and Joseph were not careless!



2 Cor 5:21

21 He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the **righteousness** of God in Him.

Phil 3:9-10

9 and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the **righteousness** which comes from God on the basis of faith.

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Naming

- The Romans usually named their child on the ninth day. That was Roman tradition. The Greeks did it on the seventh to the tenth day.
- “To this day, in Jewish tradition, practice, and custom, a male child is not named upon birth, but on the eighth day, which is the day of his circumcision.” - Arnold Fruchtenbaum

Luke 1:31

31 "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus."

Matt 1:21

21 "She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

Note: The Greek Jesus corresponds to the OT Yehoshua which is contracted as Yeshua.

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Ceremony #3 – Dedication

“present” - παρισταειν - surrendering or yielding up.

Ex 34:19

19 "The first offspring from every womb belongs to Me,

- Why? Because God spared the firstborn of Israel in Egypt's deadliest plague. Therefore they belonged to Him.

I know of a Name, A beautiful name

Jean Perry

I know of a Name,
A beautiful Name,
That angels bro't down to earth;
They whispered it low
One night long ago,
To a maiden of lowly birth.

Refrain:

That beautiful Name,
That beautiful Name,
From sin has power to free us!
That beautiful Name,
That wonderful Name,
That matchless name is Jesus!

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Ceremony #2 – Purification

- After the birth of a boy a woman was considered unclean for forty days (eighty for a girl child). She could work around the home and engage in normal activities, but she could not take part in religious ceremonies. She was ceremonially unclean. After a woman's forty or eighty days were up, she was to make an offering in the temple.

Lev 12:2-4

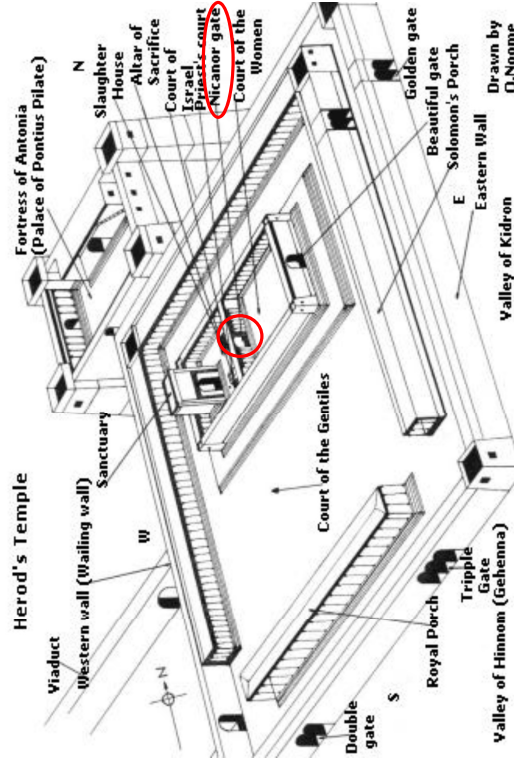
2 "Speak to the sons of Israel, saying:

"When a woman gives birth and bears a male child, then she shall be unclean for seven days, as in the days of her menstruation she shall be unclean.

3 "On the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised.

4 "Then she shall remain in the blood of her purification for thirty-three days; she shall not touch any consecrated thing, nor enter the sanctuary until the days of her purification are completed.

- “**their purification**” - When any person had any kind of flow of blood or bodily fluids coming from their body, or someone came in contact with the blood, they became ceremonially “unclean”.



Drawn by
O.Noome

"In the presentation part of the ceremony, the baby was presented to the priest with a small sum of money, equal to five shekels of silver (about \$3.20 in our money). Then the priest asked the question, "Which would you rather do--give up your firstborn son, or redeem him for five shekels of silver?" "This is my firstborn," answered the father. "Take unto thee the five shekels due for his redemption." The rabbi repeated two short prayers, one for the law of redemption, one for the gift of the child. Then, placing his hands on the head of the child, he pronounced the blessing."

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- 19 "The first offspring from every womb belongs to Me, Why? Because God spared the firstborn of Israel in Egypt's deadliest plague. Therefore they belonged to Him.
- It is the responsibility and privilege of parents to dedicate their children to the Lord.

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• In the Old Testament, the firstborn was sanctified, set apart, and dedicated to the Lord for the priesthood since it was the firstborn that was spared by the blood on the doorpost when the Death Angel went through Egypt.

- When the tribe of Levi became the tribe of priests, then the firstborn of other tribes would be presented to the Lord but then could be bought back.

CHRIST IS THE FIRSTBORN:

"Among Many Brethren."

Rom 8:29

29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the **firstborn** among many brethren;

"Of All Creation."

Col 1:15

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the **firstborn** of all creation

"From The Dead."

Col 1:18

18 He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the **firstborn** from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

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- Mary is offering this sacrifice 40 days after her purification.
- You sacrificed depending on your economic situation.
- The law stated that the sacrifice of purification was "a lamb" and "a turtledove." The lamb was a burnt offering and the turtledove a sin offering.
- If you could only afford turtledoves or pigeons (\$2.50), as is the case here, it would indicate one who was poor.
- **Note:** Mary here is offering a sin offering. She is not sinless.
- Mary was once again ceremonially clean after offering the sacrifice.

Note: The obedience of Joseph and Mary:

- Giving Him the name Jesus in obedience to the angel's command.
- Mary's observance of the law of purification.
- Presenting Jesus in the temple.
- Paying the 5 shekels of silver for a firstborn son.

How is your obedience to God?

- slow?
- indifferent?
- enthusiastic?
- quick?

*“Trust and **obey**, for there is no other way to be happy in Jesus, than to trust and **obey**.”*