

Luke 2:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law,

Analysis

He came by the Spirit into the temple (ἥλθεν ἐν τῷ πνεύματι εἰς τὸ ἱερόν, ēlthen en tō pneumati eis to hieron)—The Holy Spirit's direct guidance brought Simeon at the exact moment of Jesus's presentation. The Greek construction en tō pneumati indicates movement under the Spirit's control, demonstrating sovereign orchestration.

To do for him after the custom of the law (τοῦ ποιῆσαι κατὰ τὸ εἰθισμένον τοῦ νόμου, tou poiēsai kata to eithismenon tou nomou)—Mary and Joseph's obedience to Leviticus 12:2-8 for purification and firstborn consecration (Exodus 13:2) demonstrates Jesus born 'under the law' (Galatians 4:4). The Lawgiver Himself submits to the law's requirements, identifying fully with His people's obligations.

Historical Context

Forty days after birth, Jewish mothers presented purification offerings at the temple (Leviticus 12:2-4). The firstborn male dedication commemorated the Passover's sparing of Israel's firstborn in Egypt. Luke's careful notation of legal observance shows Jesus's family as Torah-observant Jews.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does the Spirit's guidance of Simeon model sensitivity to divine promptings in our daily lives?
2. What does Jesus's submission to Levitical law from infancy teach about His identification with humanity?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἦλθεν ἐν τῷ πνεύματι εἰς τὸ ἱερόν· καὶ ἐν
And he came by the Spirit into the temple And by
G2532 G2064 G1722 G3588 G4151 G1519 G3588 G2411 G2532 G1722
τῷ εἰσαγαγεῖν τοὺς γονεῖς τὸ παιδίον Ἰησοῦν
brought when the parents the child Jesus
G3588 G1521 G3588 G1118 G3588 G3813 G2424
τοῦ ποιῆσαι αὐτοῦ κατὰ τὸ εἰθισμένον τοῦ νόμου
to do him after the custom of the law
G3588 G4160 G846 G2596 G3588 G1480 G3588 G3551
περὶ αὐτοῦ
for him
G4012 G846

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 17:3 (Spirit): So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

Acts 10:19 (Spirit): While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee.

Luke 2:41 (Parallel theme): Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover.

Luke 2:51 (Parallel theme): And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

Luke 2:48 (Parallel theme): And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.

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