

Luke 2:38

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

Analysis

Anna 'gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem.' Her response mirrors Simeon's—recognizing Jesus as the promised Redeemer and immediately testifying to others. The phrase 'looked for redemption' identifies the faithful remnant who maintained messianic hope. Anna's speaking 'of him' indicates specific testimony about this child, not generic religious talk. As a prophetess, she interpreted current events in light of prophetic expectation, confirming Jesus's identity. That she spoke to all waiting for redemption shows discernment—she addressed those spiritually prepared to receive the message. Her immediate testimony models that encountering Christ produces witness.

Historical Context

The 'looking for redemption' community in Jerusalem represented faithful Jews who maintained hope during Roman occupation and spiritual deadness. Anna's testimony to this group prepared a receptive audience for Jesus's later ministry. Her recognition and proclamation demonstrate that God ensures witnesses to His truth.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does encountering Christ naturally produce testimony to others?
2. What does it mean to 'look for redemption' in times of spiritual darkness?
3. How can we discern who is spiritually prepared to receive testimony about Christ?

Interlinear Text

καὶ αὐτῇ αὐτοῦ τῇ ὥρᾳ ἐπιστᾶσα ἀνθωμολογεῖτο τῷ
And she him G3588 instant coming in gave thanks likewise G3588
G2532 G3778 G846 G5610 G2186 G437

Κυρίῳ, καὶ ἐλάλει περὶ αὐτοῦ πᾶσιν τοῖς
unto the Lord And spake of him to all G3588
G2962 G2532 G2980 G4012 G846 G3956

προσδεχομένοις λύτρωσιν ἐν Ἱερουσαλήμ
them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem
G4327 G3085 G1722 G2419

Additional Cross-References

Luke 2:25 (References Jerusalem): And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.

2 Corinthians 9:15 (Parallel theme): Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.

Luke 1:68 (Redemption): Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people,

Luke 24:21 (Redemption): But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, to day is the third day since these things were done.