

HOME STUDY LEAFLET.

LESSON 2.

JULY 8th, 1894.

3rd QUARTER.

Presentation in the Temple. Luke 2: 25-38.

GOLDEN TEXT: "A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel." Luke 2: 32.

COMMIT TO MEMORY verses 27-32. CHILDREN'S HYMNAL, 30, 19, 31, 61, 1

PROVE THAT—God answers prayer. Matt. 21: 22.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Quest. 83. Are all transgressions of the law equally heinous?

DAILY PORTIONS.

(The Selections of the International Bible Reading Association.)

MONDAY.	TUESDAY.	WEDNESDAY.	THURSDAY.	FRIDAY.	SATURDAY.	SABBATH.
Luke 2: 25-38	John 3: 10-21	Isa. 49: 5-12.	1 Pet 2: 1-10	Heb. 12: 1-6.	John 19: 25-30	Isa. 42: 1-8.

To the Teacher—Do not credit any Scholar with having prepared the lesson who does not at least try to answer the questions. Take the leaflet home and assign a value to each answer, announcing the result on the following Sabbath. Take, or send, the Leaflet to absent scholars.

Always bring your Bible and Shorter Catechism to the Sabbath School.

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. When Mary's babe was eight days old he was circumcised as the law required. When was this law first made? Gen. 17: 10. It meant that the child was consecrated to God's service, and would be trained up for him. He, then received the name which the angel said should be his, JESUS, (Matt. 1: 21.) which means "Saviour," and is the same as Joshua. Doubtless there were many Jewish boys who bore that name, but it had a real meaning in his case. Forty days after his birth two ceremonies were required.

His mother had to offer a sacrifice for herself, consisting, if she was poor, of a pair of turtle doves or two young pigeons. 2. Being a first-born he had to be redeemed by the payment of five shekels (about \$2.75) See Ex. 13: 13; Num. 3: 44-48; 18: 16. When these rites were being performed the events of our lesson took place. You were given to God in baptism, which means the same as circumcision, and your parents have often brought you to God's house and asked Him to make you His child.

LESSON PLAN. I. Simeon's Song. vs. 25-32. II. Simeon's Prophecy. vs. 33-35. I. Anna's Testimony. vs. 36-38.

I. SIMEON'S SONG. 25. Simeon—Some suppose that he was the father of Gamaliel, Paul's teacher (Acts 5; 34; 22: 3), but we really know nothing about him besides what here told. The name was a common one. Just—His life was blameless. Compare Samson, 1 Sam. 12: 3. Devout—He loved, revered and served God. A man of piety. The consolation of Israel—The same word is translated "Comforter" in John 14: 16, and "Advocate" in 1 John 2: 1. It was a common name among the Jews for the Messiah, and is based upon such passages as Isa. 40: 1; 49: 13. Others too were waiting. Mark 15: 3. 26. The Lord's Christ—Jehovah's Anointed One, the Messiah. 27. Came to the Spirit (R. V.)—He was in a state of inspiration by the Holy Spirit, and so prepared to recognize Jesus, and to utter inspired words, Rev. 1: 10; Matt. 4: 1. What prophecy was now fulfilled? (Mal. 3: 1.) 28. Blessed God—The song of praise that follows is known as the *Nunc Dimittis* from the two first words of the Latin version. It has been sung in Christian worship since the sixth century. 25. "Now thou dost dismiss thy servant in

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peace as thou didst promise." Lord—rather "Master." He compares himself to a servant whose long duty is ended, and who has received the reward he waited for. **30. Salvation**—The word means "that by which salvation is to be effected." God's agent for saving the world. Isa. 52: 10; Luke 3: 6. **31. Before the face of**—All the world might look to Him. Isa. 45: 22; John 3: 14-17. **All the peoples (R. V.)**—Not for Jews only, but for the whole world. **32. To lighten the Gentiles**—R. V. "for revelation to the Gentiles." See Isa. 25: 7. Dispelling the darkness of ignorance and sin. Pointing out the way of salvation. Simeon understood the gospel better than the apostles at first. See Isa. 42: 6; 49: 6; Acts 13: 47. **The Glory**—For his sake the nation was called into existence, the hope of his coming was the inspiration of its patriots and prophets, and the whole world now looks for salvation to one who was born of the tribe of Judah and the house of David.

II. SIMEON'S PROPHECY. 33. Marvelled—Every new incident seems to increase their astonishment. They did not clearly understand as yet what kind of a Saviour, Jesus was to be, and so Simeon gives them a hint that perplexes them still more. **34. The falling and rising up**—Isa. 8: 14, 16; 28: 16; Matt. 21: 44; 2 Cor. 2: 16; 1 Pet. 2: 7, 8. Those who reject Christ will fall into utter moral ruin; those who receive him as their Saviour will rise into likeness to him. It may mean that those who are humbled for sin, will rise again through the pardon he offers. **A Sign**—A divine token. Jesus was misunderstood and slandered, and his disciples have experienced the same treatment ever since. Acts 28: 22. **35. A sword**—This is said to Mary, and was fulfilled when she saw him rejected and crucified. John 19: 25. **That the thoughts**—This was God's purpose when he "set," or appointed Christ. "What think ye of Christ?" is the test question for every one. He brings out all the best that is in those that receive him, and the evil in the hearts of evil men shews itself when he is offered to them. Read John 9: 39; 3: 19; 1 Cor. 1: 23; 2 Cor. 2: 15, 16.

III. ANNA'S TESTIMONY. 36. Anna—Same name as Hannah. **Phanuel**—Same as Penuel. (Gen. 32: 30.) **Prophetess**—She was inspired to speak for God, both in exhorting and foretelling future events. Acts 21: 9; 2 Chr. 34: 22. **37. Four score and four years**—This was probably her age, but some think it was the length of her widowhood. **Served God**—Her whole time was devoted to religious exercises. Compare 1 Tim. 5: 5. **38. She also recognizes Jesus, but her song of praise is not given, All them that are looking for the redemption of Jerusalem (R. V.)**—Isa. 40: 2. These were people like herself and Simeon, who frequented the temple and expected the Messiah. Lam. 3: 25, 26; Mark 15: 43.

To the Scholar.—Study the lesson carefully, turning up the marginal references and reading the "Daily Portions." Then close your Bible and try to answer in writing the questions following *without accepting aid from any quarter* after you have begun to write. Then bring this leaflet to Sabbath School with you on the day of its date. If you cannot come, fill out the blank and send the leaflet (with the answers written out) to your teacher by some friend, or by mail, and you will receive credit for the work done as if you had been present. If your excuse is satisfactory, you will not lose in record of attendance.

- 1.—How is Simeon described? (4)
- 2.—What had been revealed to him? (4)
- 3.—What made him so glad? (4)
- 4.—What sorrow did he predict for Mary? (4)
- 5.—How does Christ reveal the hearts of men? (5)
- 6.—How is Anna described? (4)

Name, _____

Dear Teacher,—Please excuse my absence from Sabbath School to-day, I cannot come because _____ I have read the "Daily Portions" and answered the questions as well as I could. I have committed to memory _____ verses in addition to the Golden Text, and _____ Questions in the Catechism and have recited them to _____ I was at church _____ I send with this my Weekly Offering of _____ cents.