

# **Winnipeg Conference 2011**

## **Bible Reading: Luke 2**

### **Reading 1: v1-24 (Conducted by Gordon Williams)**

#### **v1-3: The Decree of Caesar:**

- Augustus Caesar, Emperor of the Roman Empire 27bc - 14ad
- as unborn Christ comes from Nazareth to Bethlehem
- as incarnate Christ comes from Heaven to Earth

#### **v4-5: The Journey to Bethlehem**

- Joseph and Mary travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem
- A journey of 70 miles if they went directly,
- A journey of 90 miles if they went by the Jordan Valley.

#### **v6-7: The Birth of Christ**

- The Lord of glory in swaddling clothes
- The Lord of Heaven in a manger
- The Lord of all in the outside place

#### **v8-14: The Appearance of Angels**

- The Angel of the Lord
- The multitude of Angels
- The theme of their message

#### **v15-20: The Visit of the Shepherds**

- They went with haste
- They found the child
- They told the story

#### **v21-24: The Purification of the Mother**

- The Law of Moses
- The Seven days of uncleanness
- The Eighth day of circumcision and name
- The thirty-three days of purifying

#### **The Presentation of the Child**

- To present him to the Lord
- To offer for herself
- To show us the lowliness of His coming.

## **Reading 2: v25-52 (Conducted by John Stubbs)**

### **v25- 35: SIMEON – A LESSON FOR BRETHERN**

- HIS DISPOSITION THROUGH LIFE v25 & 26 – *“waiting for the consolation of Israel”*
- HIS DELIGHT IN GOD’S CENTRE v27 – *“came by the Spirit into the temple”*
- HIS DETACHMENT FROM THE WORLD v27- 31– *“Lord now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace”*
- HIS DISCERNMENT OF GOD’S PURPOSE v32-35 – *“This child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel”*.

### **v36- 38: ANNA – A LESSON FOR SISTERS**

- HER LONGEVITY v36 – *“she was of a great age”*
- HER CONSISTENCY v37A – *“which departed not from the temple”*
- HER SPIRITUALITY v37B – *“served God with fastings and prayers night and day”*
- HER TESTIMONY v38 – *“she spake of Him to all that looked for redemption in Israel”*

### **v39-44: JOSEPH AND MARY - A LESSON FOR PARENTS**

- THEY DID THINGS TOGETHER v41 - *“His parents went to Jerusalem every year”*
- THEY RESPECTED GOD’S COMMANDS v42 - *“after the custom of the feast”*
- THEY HELPED ONE ANOTHER IN SPIRITUAL THINGS v43 - *“and when they had fulfilled the days”*
- THEY LOST THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST v44 - *“supposing Him to be in the company”*

### **v45-52: THE LORD JESUS – A LESSON FOR THE YOUNG**

- A PERFECT ORDER v46 – *“both hearing them and asking them questions”*
- A PERFECT OBEDIENCE v49 – *“wist ye not I must be about My father’s business”*
- A PERFECT EXAMPLE v51 – *“came to Nazareth and was subject unto them”*
- A PERFECT DEVELOPMENT v52 – *“And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature... ..”*

John J Stubbs