

***Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further***  
***International Bible Lessons***

**Exodus 13:13-15 & Luke 2:22-32**

**Sunday December 20, 2015**

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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

**Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further**

**1. If you were an Israelite and wanted to keep your firstborn donkey, what did the Law of God require of you?**

I would need to sacrifice a lamb to redeem the donkey.

**2. What two ceremonial rituals did Joseph and Mary perform after Jesus was born?**

The rite of circumcision eight days after Jesus’ birth.

The rite of purification forty days after Jesus’ birth.

**3. What type of sacrifice did Joseph and Mary offer at the temple, and what might that reveal about them?**

They sacrificed “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.” They obeyed the Law of God and they were probably very poor at that time.

**4 How does the Bible describe the moral and spiritual character of Simeon?**

Simeon was righteous, devout, and the Holy Spirit rested on him.

**5. What did Simeon say about Jesus when he held Him?**

Luke 2:30-32—“For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.”