

My eyes have seen Your salvation!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2022 Alexandra Houck. Email is orthodoxchildrensword (at) gmail.com. Find it each week at myocn.net.

The Children's Word

"Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them, for to such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Mark 10:14

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The city to come



Have you ever built a sand castle? Or a snow fort? Have you built a fort out of sticks? How long did your fort stay up? Did you knock it down? Did somebody else?

Today's epistle reading today reminds us of these forts we might build—forts that don't last long! We read, "For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come." These words remind us that our lives here are temporary. They last maybe 90 years, maybe even a 100 years—in this life.

We know that our life here doesn't last, but we are waiting for the "city which is to come." Do you know what that city is? It's heaven, of course. And heaven lasts forever!

We have to always remember that this life is the one that doesn't last. The next one lasts forever! When we know that, we can use this time getting ready for the next life. God gives us this time to grow close to Him, to learn about God, and to learn to love Him.

Our lives here on earth (and our forts, too!) don't last long, but God gives us a whole new life with Him that will last forever. Let's try to love God more and more so we can be ready for Him.

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- City
- Feastday
- Forever
- Grow in Christ
- Heaven
- Love
- Presentation
- Simeon
- Temple

N J W H R S J A L N D H K M T
 O T B Q S I B M O H E D D X S
 I F E R B N F E A A P B F P I
 T E R M J N M V V M Q L Q C R
 A P V X P I F E A S T D A Y H
 T R S O S L N K U J R N F H C
 N Y H V L O E W C T Y Y S U N
 E Y B W Q L J A D D K R S O I
 S R E V E R O F L D P K K A W
 E K X N K R I O E T P I Z B O
 R M X H C F G A Q C R D W H R
 P A J X I Z N O N G Q D O P G
 W Z Z B T Y Q G J I E O Z H K
 T H D Q Y W D Z B B P F P R A
 Y J J U G O M S M S F H Z Q L

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

Here is another icon of the Presentation of the Lord.

You can find baby Jesus. Do you remember the name of the person holding Him?

Do you see the baby Jesus blessing Simeon?



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LET YOUR SERVANT DEPART THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Have you ever heard somebody say, “I’ve seen it all!”? Usually it means that person has seen something really surprising, something he’s never seen before.

On Wednesday, exactly 40 days after Christmas, we will celebrate a Great Feast. This feast is called the Presentation of the Lord into the Temple. When Jesus was 40 days old, He was carried into the Temple, because that was the Jewish law.



An old man named Simeon was there at the Temple. He held the baby Jesus in his arms, and he blessed God. Then Simeon said these words, “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation.” Simeon had been waiting all his life to see the person who would save the world! And he could see that Jesus (even as a tiny baby) was that person. Simeon was a very old man, but he knew he would not die until he had seen the Savior!

That holy man, Simeon, was kind of saying, “I have seen it all now!” He had seen what he had been waiting for. Now he could “depart in peace.” He was happy and peaceful because he knew God had come to save the world!

We celebrate this great feastday on Wednesday, February 2nd (OC: Feb. 15th).