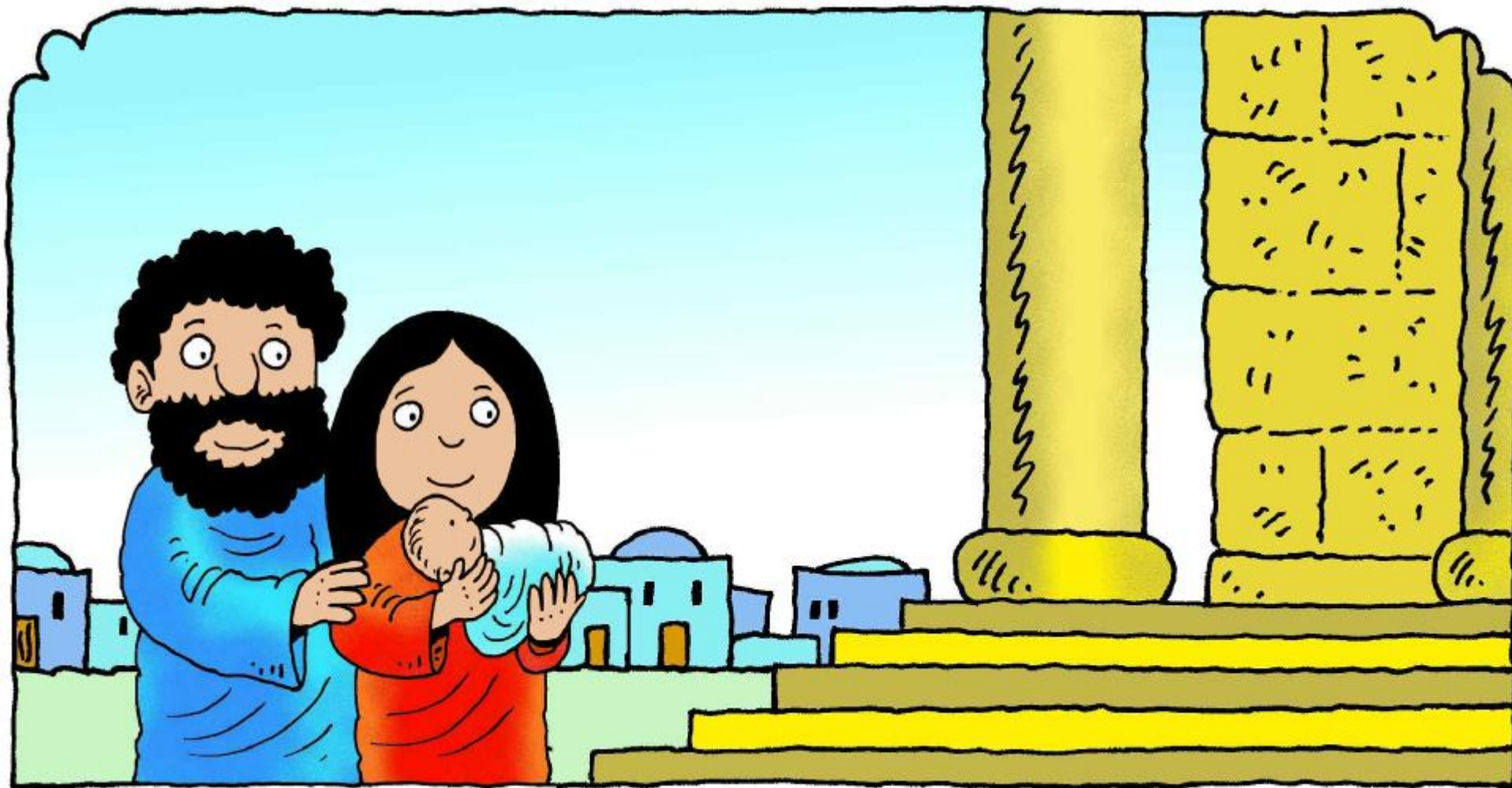


# When Jesus Was Eight Days Old

By Jill Kemp

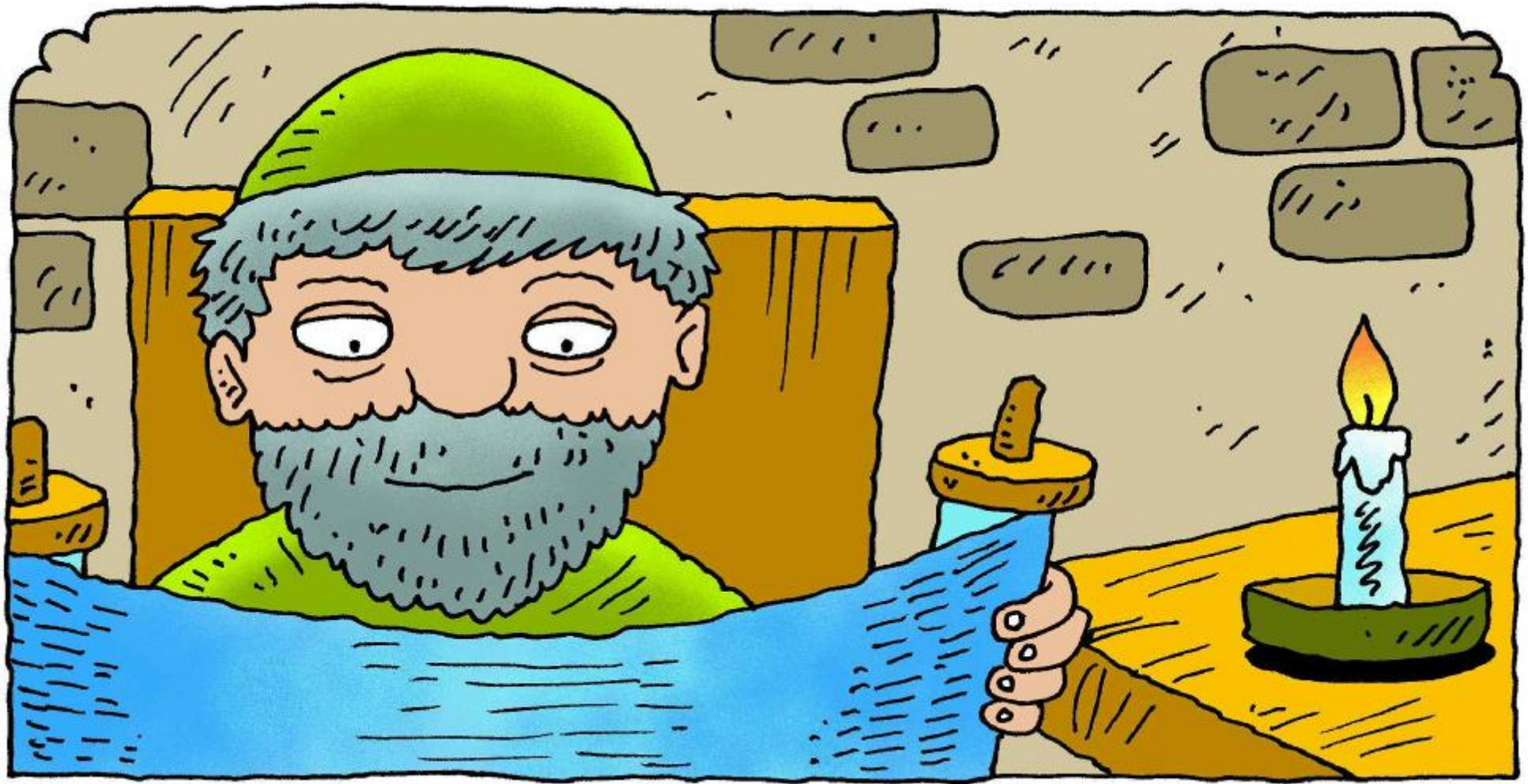
Illustrated by Richard Gunther





When baby Jesus was eight days old Joseph and Mary took him to the temple at Jerusalem to be circumcised and to dedicate his life to God, just as it is written in the Law God gave to Moses.





At the temple in Jerusalem was a man of God called Simeon, who was 84 years old. The Spirit of God had promised him that he would see the Saviour and promised Messiah, before he died.



Simeon prayed and waited for many years and he was now a very old man. When Simeon saw baby Jesus, God's Holy Spirit told him that this baby was the promised one!





He asked Joseph and Mary if he could hold the baby. Then Simeon's heart was filled with joy and he praised and thanked God that his prayers had been answered!



“I can die in peace now I have seen the promised one, You God have sent for people all over the world to see and know. He will bring honour to the descendants of Israel.”



Joseph and Mary were amazed to hear these things. Then Simeon told Mary, “Many things will happen to your son that will make you very sad, but God knows those who believe and follow Him.”





Anna, a very old widow woman, was also in the temple.  
She told Joseph and Mary that God's Spirit had shown her that Jesus was the promised Saviour too.  
Mary kept these words from God in her heart.