

“ in my Father’s house”

Luke 2:41-52

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Luke 2:41-42

41 Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. **42** When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom.

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“According to God’s law, every male was required to go to Jerusalem three times a year for the great festivals...Passover was the most important of the three annual festivals.”

NIV 1984 Life Application Study Bible

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Deuteronomy 16:16-17

16 Three times a year all your men must appear before the LORD your God at the place he will choose: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Weeks and the Feast of Tabernacles. No man should appear before the LORD empty-handed: **17** Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the LORD your God has blessed you.

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Although women were not required to go, Mary did. This shows both Mary and Joseph's piety and the depth of their faith.

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Luke 2:43-48

43 After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. **44** Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends.

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“Those who attended these festivals often traveled in caravans for protection from robbers along the Palestine roads. The women and children usually would travel at the front of the caravan, with the men bringing up the rear. A 12 year old boy conceivably could have been in either group, so Mary and Joseph probably assumed that Jesus was with the other.”

45 When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. **46** After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.

47 Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. **48** When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.”

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“Mary’s words convey a tone of exasperation and rebuke-normal for any mother under such circumstances, but misplaced in this case. Jesus was not hiding from them or defying their authority. In fact, He had done precisely what any child should do under such circumstances-He went to a safe public place, in the presence of trusted adults, where His parents could be expected to come looking for Him.”

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Luke 2:49-50

49 “Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?” **50** But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

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John 14:1-4

1 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. **2** In my Father’s house are many rooms; if that were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. **3** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. **4** You know the way to the place where I am going.”

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Luke 2:50-51

51 Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. **52** And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

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“The Bible does not record any events of the next 18 years of Jesus’ life, but Jesus undoubtedly was learning and maturing. As the oldest in a large family, He undoubtedly assisted Joseph in his carpentry work. Joseph may have died during this time, leaving Jesus to provide for the family. The normal routines of daily life gave Jesus a solid understanding of the Judean people.”

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“ ...we often think that Jesus knew about his divine nature from the time of his birth throughout his life. Luke 2:52 is one of the most amazing verses in all Scripture.

It emphasizes the true humanity of Jesus and indicates that he grew in every way that a human grows. He grew in stature indicating that he grew physically. He grew in wisdom indicating that he grew intellectually. He grew in favor with men which means he grew socially and emotionally.”

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“Most significantly, he also grew in favor with God indicating that he grew spiritually. One may ask, how this can be?”

When the eternal Son of God humbly came to this earth and took on the human nature as an infant, he was not laying in the manger with the awareness that he was God in the flesh. While he never ceased being God while he was human, he was not always aware of his complete identity.”

“This awareness developed as he grew. The Temple incident at age twelve indicates he has some awareness of his unique relationship with the Father. By the time he is baptized at age thirty he is aware of his complete identity and his mission. These few verses in Luke are the only verses that speak of the time of Jesus between the age of twelve and thirty. We discover human growth in every dimension of His humanity.”

Applications

- **Remember that Jesus knows who we are and what we go through.**
- **Jesus was obedient, so shouldn't we be?**
- **Jesus studied the Word, shouldn't we?**

Final Thoughts

Isaiah 53:3-4

3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we held esteemed him not. **4** Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, stricken by him, and afflicted.

Final Thoughts

Philippians 2:5-11

5 Your attitude should be the same as Christ Jesus: **6** Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, **7** but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death — even death on a cross! **9** Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, **10** that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, **11** and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.