

Divine History, The Trinity, and One God in Three Persons

- ✓ "You are not yet fifty years old," the Jews said to Him, "and you have seen Abraham! "I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!" **John 8:57-58 (NIV).**

Earthly History of Jesus

- ✓ An Angel delivers the pregnancy announcement.
- ✓ Angels Deliver Birth Announcement.
- ✓ They are told to go to Egypt to keep Jesus alive and Jesus is presented to the Lord. "On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise Him, He was named Jesus, the name the angel had given Him before He had been conceived. When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord..." **Luke 2:21-22 (NIV84).**
- ✓ Spoiler alert, Jesus and Jerusalem go together a lot.
- ✓ The setup has 12 years of scriptural silence.

Circumstances, In Context

- ✓ The scientist says, "My findings are meaningless if taken out of context," but in the media they say, [Scientist](#) claims "Findings are meaningless."
- ✓ "When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; He was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon Him. Every year His parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover." **Luke 2:39-52 (NIV84).**

Jesus Grew, Luke 2:40, Although fully God, He was self-limited and allowed Himself to grow as any other person. He grew physically, socially and spiritual yet without sin. He was always the Messiah.

Messiah

- ✓ I have no idea what that looks like, just that it is!

Annual Celebration

- ✓ The annual celebration of Passover.
- ✓ If this were Baptist feast it would be more feast than Passover, ☺ FAV recipes.
- ✓ Passover was about the Sacrificial Blood and saving God's People in Egypt. A precursor to the Messiah.

About The Trip

- ✓ Passover was attended annually and was something expected for everyone.
- ✓ The people had to save up money for the trip to Jerusalem.

Jerusalem Statistics

- ✓ Jerusalem had a population of 25,000 which grew to around 210,000 during Passover.
- ✓ It was 64 miles, as the crow flies, from Nazareth to Jerusalem.
- ✓ IBC to Port of Brownsville is only 21 miles which would be about one day of travel.
- ✓ The required 6 days of traveling supplies, only 3 if you bought half of your supplies in Jerusalem.
- ✓ There were seven days of feasting, note only 3 of those days were required.
- ✓ The average low temperature in Jerusalem was 51 for the low and 73 for the high.
- ✓ There were no coolers to keep your food fresh, rest stops or air conditioned restaurants
- ✓ "When He was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom." **Luke 2:42**

Commitment Means Work

- ✓ Though skeptical of his teenage son's newfound determination to build bulging muscles, one father followed his teenager to the store's weight-lifting department, where they admired a set of weights. "Please, Dad," pleaded the teen, "I promise I'll use 'em every day." "I don't know, Michael. It's really a commitment on your part," the father said. "Please, Dad?" "They're not cheap either," the father said. "I'll use 'em, Dad, I promise. You'll see." Finally won him over, the father paid for the equipment and headed for the door. After a few steps, he heard his son behind him say, "What! You mean I have to carry them to the car?"
Source: Pastor Tim's Clean Laugh List.

Luke 2:39-52, "Jesus at Twelve"

- ✓ "After the Feast was over, while His parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. Thinking He was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for Him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find Him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for Him." **Luke 2:43-45.**
- ✓ An illustration would be a lost child in a clothes rack.
- ✓ Mary Lost the Son of God in the City of God.
- ✓ Mary Treasured things about Jesus ... hid them from people?
- ✓ Revealing who Jesus was might get Him in trouble with
 - The political leaders because of their competition to rule.
 - The religious leaders lived their lives blasphemously.
 - Mary had already run from this evil, to Egypt to protect Him. "When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and His mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill Him." So, he got up, took the child and His mother during the night, and left for Egypt" **Matthew 2:13-14 (NIV).**
- ✓ "They went back to Jerusalem to look for Him. After three days they found Him in the temple court" **Luke 2:43-45.**
- ✓ Being "Lost" had a cost
 - 1 day toward home
 - 1 day back
 - 1 day searching.
 - added cost for the extra food
 - lost wages.
- ✓ This 12 year old boy was found in the temple yet did not exhibit typical 12 year old behavior. I would have been checking out the cool places, secret places. Climbing. running and jumping off of things.

Question: What were you like at 12 years of age?

- ✓ Notice, they did not start looking at the temple. Maybe they worked there to the temple from the outskirts of town. "After three days they found Him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them, and asking them questions. Everyone who heard Him was amazed at His understanding and His answers. When His parents saw Him, they were astonished" **Luke 2:46-48.**

What Jesus Did:

- ✓ Jesus listened
- ✓ Jesus asked good questions
- ✓ Jesus gave great answers.
- ✓ This was a 12 year old who spent 3 days in the temple learning and teaching.
- ✓ This was way out of the norm. Actually, Jesus should be our "Norm."
- ✓ As a side note, Annas who was the High Priest would Later take part in Jesus' trial.
- ✓ Astonishment/Amazement: All around Jesus from the Temple Leaders, the Temple attenders, and His parents. We are all naturally astonished by the extraordinary. This will be the future state of all who spent time with Jesus.
- ✓ Bar Mitzvahs occurred at 12 years of age, considered coming of age and in Jesus' case He was already amazing.

My Stint as a Discus Thrower (Age Twelve). I practiced in the backyard and threw a 5lb weight through the back of our shed.

WHAT JESUS' PARENTS SAID:

- ✓ 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." **Luke 2:48.**

Jesus OUGHT to, God OUGHT to...

- ✓ It seemed to Mary that Jesus had disrespected His earthly parents, but Jesus had no sin. Jesus had already "come of age." Verse 40 refers to Jesus as Child but verse 43 refers to Him as a Boy.
- ✓ Note that Jesus did not disobey His parents, His parents just had faulty expectations.
- ✓ We all must fit into God's box. Even so, Jesus did not admonish His mother (parents)

WHAT JESUS SAID:

- ✓ "His mother said to Him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you. Why were you searching for me?" He asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" (NKJV "about My Father's Business") **Luke 2:48-49.**
- ✓ Jesus was astonished at His mother's question. "Why Were You Searching?" **Luke 2:49**, is more of a statement than a question, i.e., you should have known! It is so blatantly obvious to Jesus where He would be found that it astonishes Him.

Your Father Verse 48, My Father Verse 49

- ✓ Our primary identity is our relationship to God, not to flesh and blood.
- ✓ Our primary obligation is our relationship to God along with being about the business of God. Regardless how other people may view it at the age of twelve He knew most clearly that God was His Father in a way which God was not Father to anyone else. By the age of 12 it seems that He understood His divine heritage. He was at "My Father's Work."

Jesus was NOT squeezing God into His life.

- ✓ I must be about the Father's Business was the priority. "But they did not understand what He was saying to them. Then He went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men." **Luke 2:50-52.**

What KIND of Savior did Mary & Joseph Expect?

- ✓ The illustration is that Mary didn't fully know. Jesus knew His mission and purpose. She was not expected to know, except through God's revelation. God's "Call" seldom comes with details.
- ✓ Be aware of authority and chain of Command.
- ✓ Jesus displayed humility through His obedience to His earthly parents, to His Heavenly Father, and even unto death on a cross. In His life He had unfinished business until later as He hung on the cross Jesus said, "It is Finished." "And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to death... even death on a cross!" **Philippians 2:8 (NIV).**

Segue to the Lord's Supper, Jesus' Passover Experience

- ✓ Validated the sacrificial process, the "Blood of the Lamb." Jesus became the Lamb who shed His blood for our sin. This validates the work of the Temple, the Synagogue and later the Church. The blood of many lambs on doorposts brought salvation to Israel. The Blood of the Lamb on your heart brings God's salvation to you.

Recap Questions

- ✓ When is the last time You were amazed by Jesus? No Amazement, no Jesus, at least not the real version of Him. Will you be like Jesus this week? Will you be prioritizing your activities around the Father's Business? I very much hope you will!
