

(15) Childhood of Jesus (Lk. 2:40,51)

(16) 12 year old Jesus Visits the Temple (Lk. 2:41-50)

(17) Summary of Jesus' Growth to Adulthood (Lk. 2:51-52)

1. Having "emptied Himself" (Phil. 2:7), the mortal humanity of Jesus required growth (Lk. 2:40,52).
 - a. The κένωσις kenosis of Jesus Christ means that He voluntarily laid aside His privileges (NASB margin).
 - 1) God the Son's **Immutability** does not allow Him to stop *being Omniscient, Omnipotent, Omnipresent*, etc.
 - 2) God the Son's **Sovereignty** allows Him to stop *exercising* His divine power.
 - b. By not exercising **Omnipresence**, God the Son required His activity within space and time to be limited to a mortal human body's operation within space and time.
 - c. By not exercising **Omniscience**, God the Son required the mortal humanity of Jesus' mind to learn.
 - d. By not exercising **Omnipotence**, God the Son required the mortal humanity of Jesus' body to grow.
2. God the Father bestowed a particular Grace upon the mortal humanity of Jesus Christ during His childhood.

And the little child kept on growing and kept on increasing in strength, being constantly suffused with wisdom. (Wuest)
3. Joseph & Mary faithfully raised their family under the requirements of the Mosaic Law (Lk. 2:41ff).
 - a. This particular Passover pilgrimage was unique among all the annual pilgrimages that their family ever undertook.
 - b. This Passover would be the last time Jesus of Nazareth would attend as a child. The Jewish boy was recognized as entering manhood at thirteen years of age. At that time, he became a "son of the Law," and was qualified to constitute a synagogue. (Ralph Gower, New Manners and Customs of Bible Times)
4. The unusual event on this occasion actually occurred at the conclusion of the Passover week (Lk. 2:43).
 - a. Joseph & Mary returned to Nazareth in a caravan of relatives and acquaintances (Lk. 2:44).
 - b. The boy (ὁ παῖς ho pais ^{#3816}_{24x}) Jesus remained (ὑπομένω hupomenō ^{#5278}_{17x}). *to stay in a place beyond an expected point of time, remain/stay (behind) while others go away* (Lk. 2:43; Acts 17:14).
 - 1) Sitting in the midst of the teachers. No mention of any other students.
 - 2) Listening (ἀκούω akouō ^{#191}_{427x}) to the teachers' instruction, and asking them questions (ἐπερωτάω eperōtaō ^{#1905}_{56x}).
 - 3) Understanding (σύνεσις sunesis ^{#4907}_{7x}), and giving answers (ἀπόκρισις apokrisis ^{#612}_{4x}).
 - 4) The temple teachers were amazed (ἐξίστημι existēmi ^{#1839}_{17x}). *to lose one's mind, be out of one's senses* (Mk. 3:21; 2nd Cor. 5:13).

And all who were listening to Him were astounded to the point of a mental imbalance at His grasp and comprehension, and His ability to give them answers which exhibited a discriminating private judgment. (Wuest)
 - c. Joseph & Mary were ignorant of Jesus' activity.
 - 1) They were unaware of His absence (Lk. 2:43). οὐκ ἔγνωσαν ouk egnōsan. γινώσκω ginōskō ^{#1097}_{222x*}
 - 2) They supposed He was in the caravan (Lk. 2:44). νομίζω nomizō ^{#3543}_{15x*}; *to think*. To form an idea about something, but with some suggestion of tentativeness or refraining from a definitive statement: *think, believe, hold, consider*.
 - 3) They were astonished to see Him in the middle of the temple teachers (Lk. 2:48). Aor.pass.ind. ἐκπλήσσω ekplēssō ^{#1605}_{13x*}; *be amazed, overwhelmed* (Matt. 7:28; 13:54; 19:25; 22:33; Mk. 1:22; 6:2; 7:37; 10:26; 11:18; Lk. 2:48; 4:32; 9:43; Acts 13:12).

- 4) Did not understand (Lk. 2:49,50).
 - a) Know. 2pl.pluperfect.act.ind. οἶδα oida ^{#1492}_{317x}.
 - b) Understand. aor.act.ind. συνίημι suniēmi ^{#4920}_{26x}.
- d. Jesus comprehended the necessity of His obedient service to God the Father (Lk. 2:49).
 - 1) Joseph & Mary did not have the same understanding (Lk. 2:50).
 - 2) Taking this into consideration, Jesus understood that the time was not yet appropriate for Him to step out of his parents' jurisdiction (Lk. 2:51).
5. Jesus was continuously growing in the sight of God and man (Lk. 2:52).