

A. That blasphemous, false prophecy known as the Quran says that Jesus was able to interact with normal, mature conversation while still a newborn baby.¹

1. This is a strange piece of fiction that is contrary to the word of God; **Lu 2:40** & **v52** both mention Jesus **“increasing in wisdom.”**
2. Quran claims that Jesus didn’t have to grow in wisdom because he was able to carry out a theological discourse while in the crib.

B. **v39** should remind us of the prior context: **“When they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city of Nazareth.”** → Look back at **vv22-24**.

Witness how Jesus increased in wisdom & stature.	I. HOW JESUS DEVELOPED II. CHRIST’S CALLING TO MESSIANIC MINISTRY
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I. **HOW JESUS DEVELOPED** →**v40**

A. This single verse encompasses the first 12 years of the life of Jesus. Not much is told about what happened during this time yet some professing believers are not satisfied with Scripture’s silence concerning His childhood.

1. Some Christians thought it was necessary to produce a film called “The Young Messiah.”
2. It isn’t a good idea to put words in the mouth of Jesus that He didn’t say.

B. **v40** says **“The Child continued to grow & become strong.”**

1. As newborns are, so was Jesus when He first came into the world.
2. As a preadolescent, Jesus was taught the carpentry trade from His earthly father, Joseph. He developed strength of His body in that very physical occupation.

C. **v40** also says **“The Child... increasing in wisdom; & the grace of God was upon Him.”**

1. Jesus had to develop the ability to speak just like other children.
2. He had to learn to read; as a carpenter’s apprentice, he learned math. Jesus had a sharp mind because His thinking was not affected by a fallen, sinful nature like our minds are.
3. When Jesus was taught the Scriptures, His mind grasped the right interpretations because He was the eternal Son of God who took on flesh.
 - a. Imagine Jesus reading **Isa 64:8** **“But now, O Lord, You are our Father, We are the clay, & You our potter; & all of us are the work of Your hand.”**
 - b. Jesus didn’t just think of God as Father in the general sense that those in the covenant did.
 - c. Jesus recognized Himself as the Son of God with the Almighty as His true Father rather than Joseph.

D. Today’s text speaks of the humiliation of Jesus in His coming into the world.

1. Jesus the Lawgiver had to place Himself under that same law to fulfill it. [Even before he had awareness, the priests had to perform **“everything according to the Law of the Lord”** so that Christ would fulfill the ceremonial law as our new representative, the second Adam.]
2. **Jn 1:3** says of the preincarnate eternal Son of God: **“All things came into being through Him, & apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.”**
 - a. It was through Him the human body was created.
 - b. This same Son of God who dwelt in the splendors of heaven had to take on human flesh & live as a very dependent baby for a time.

¹ <https://quran.com/en/maryam/29-31> (Surah 19 titled “Maryam,” vv29-31).

II. CHRIST'S CALLING TO MESSIANIC MINISTRY

- A. Christ's awareness of His calling as Messiah first came about when He was 12 as his family went to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Passover. → **vv41-44**
1. It is understandable that parents can lose a child in the mall for a few hours.
 2. How can parents not notice a missing son for an entire day's journey?
 - a. It seems hard to imagine if only Joseph, Mary, Jesus, & their other children traveled together.
 - b. The group that traveled together was a caravan made up of family & acquaintances for greater safety.
 - c. His parents **"supposed Him to be in the caravan."**
 3. **v45 "When they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem looking for Him."**
- B. When Jesus was found, His calling & true identity were made more evident. → **vv46-49**
1. When Jesus addressed His parents He said, **"Why is it that you were looking for Me?"** In **v49**, both times He used the word **"you"** in the plural. He was not just addressing Mary but both of His parents.
 2. There are differences in the translation of the end of **v49**.
 - a. The NKJV & KJV both record Jesus saying He had to be **"about My Father's business."**
 - b. Other translations have **"in My Father's house."**² This is the favored translation, because the context of their dilemma for 3 days of searching was, "Where is Jesus?"
 - c. Neither the word **"business"** nor **"house"** are in the Greek. Such a word is implied by the context. It is very useful that the NASB95 has such words in italics.
 3. Jesus at the age of 12 expressed His awareness that Joseph was not His true father. Even at this age, He was aware that He was the Son of God.
 - a. When entering the temple, He knew this place of worship was more of His true place of belonging than His home back in Galilee.
 - b. As the Son of God, He was growing aware that He came down from heaven, not to do His own will, but the will of God who sent Him (**Jn 6:38**).
 - c. Even at the age of 12, **"all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding & His answers" (v47)**. This was a prelude to what would come later. After He began to teach & preach, **"the crowds were amazed at His teaching; for He was teaching them as one having authority, & not as their scribes" (Mat 7:28-29)**.
- C. Mary seemed to be the only one with some true understanding of who her Son was. → **vv50-51**
1. You should treasure this beautiful revelation about Jesus as well; He should be your greatest treasure.
 2. → **Mat 13:44-46**
- D. **Lu 3:29** says that when Jesus began His ministry, He was **"about 30 years of age."** v52 encompasses about 18 more years of growth & development of His wisdom & Messianic awareness. v52 says **"Jesus kept increasing in wisdom & stature, & in favor with God & men."**

Review, further application, & conclusion:

² NIV, ESV, NASB95