

LUKE: THE SON OF MAN, THE SAVIOR HAS
COME, WEEK 13

TITLE: THE 12 YEAR OLD JESUS AT JERUSALEM

TEXT: LUKE 2:41-52

INTRODUCTION: (1) GOING TO PASSOVER AT JERUSALEM MUST HAVE BEEN A GREAT EXPERIENCE FOR A 12 YEAR OLD BOY IN JESUS' DAY.

* THE STREETS OF JERUSALEM WERE CRAMMED WITH AS MANY AS 200,000 PILGRIMS TO CELEBRATE THE PASSOVER AND 100,000 SHEEP FOR SACRIFICES.

** AT THE AGE OF 12, ALMOST A MAN, JESUS MAY WELL HAVE HAD THE RUN OF THE CITY WITH ALL ITS SIGHTS AND SOUNDS.

*** JESUS WOULD HAVE FEASTED WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

**** HE WOULD HAVE GONE UP TO THE TEMPLE TO PRAY AND SING PSALMS.

(2) ON THE NIGHT OF THE PASSOVER HE WOULD HAVE WORSHIPPED WITH HIS FAMILY.

* AND AS JOSEPH, HIS LEGAL FATHER PREPARED THE SACRIFICIAL LAMB, JESUS WOULD HAVE HEARD THE STORY OF SALVATION OUT OF EGYPT ALL OVER AGAIN.

** JOSEPH WOULD HAVE REMINDED JESUS HOW GOD RESCUED HIS PEOPLE FROM SLAVERY AND DELIVERED THEM FROM DEATH IN EGYPT.

*** JOSEPH AT SOME POINT WOULD HAVE TAKEN THE FAMILY LAMB TO BE SACRIFICED, AND ONE CAN ONLY IMAGINE WHAT WENT **THROUGH JESUS' MIND, KNOWING THAT HE WAS** THE ULTIMATE LAMB OF GOD THAT WOULD DIE AND BE THE FINAL LAMB.

**** THE WHOLE SCENE IN JERUSALEM MUST HAVE MADE A PROFOUND IMPRESSION ON HIM.

(3) AND ALL OF THIS HAD SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE THE YEAR THAT JESUS TURNED 12.

* FOR IN ANOTHER YEAR HE WOULD BE 13, THE AGE AT WHICH A YOUNG MAN BECAME A FULL MEMBER OF THE SYNAGOGUE.

** SO JESUS WAS PREPARING TO BECOME A SON OF THE LAW OR SON OF THE COVENANT, KNOWN TODAY AS BAR MITZVAH.

*** AND THE RABBIS SAID THAT WHEN A BOY TURNED 12, IT WAS TIME FOR HIM TO GO UP TO JERUSALEM WITH HIS FATHER AND LEARN THE RITUALS FOR PASSOVER, WHICH IS WHY IN OUR TEXT TODAY IN V. 42 LUKE SAYS THAT JESUS, **"WENT UP ACCORDING TO CUSTOM."**

**** SO THIS WAS THE YEAR FOR JESUS TO LEARN WHAT IT MEANT TO BE A JEWISH MAN.

(4) WELL, THAT IS THE SETTING OF OUR STUDY **OF GOD'S WORD TODAY. WE GO TO JERUSALEM** FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE PASSOVER WHEN JESUS WAS 12 YEARS OLD.

* AND THEN WE HAVE A REPORT ABOUT JESUS INCREASING IN WISDOM AND STATURE AND IN FAVOR WITH GOD AND MAN.

** AND THE NEXT TIME WE SEE OR HEAR FROM JESUS IS WHEN HE BEGINS HIS PUBLIC MINISTRY AT 30 YEARS OF AGE.

*** **SO IN OUR TEXT TODAY WE HAVE JESUS'** FIRST WORDS AND HIS LAST WORDS UNTIL HE IS 30 AND STARTS HIS PUBLIC MINISTRY. FOR WHAT WE WILL SEE IN LUKE 3 IS THE MINISTRY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST, THE ONE WHO PREPARES THE WAY OF THE LORD.

**** AND WE WILL SEE AT THE END OF LUKE 3, THE BAPTISM OF JESUS AND THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS THROUGH MARY, AND THEN THE TEMPTATION OF CHRIST IN LUKE 4.

(5) NOW WITH THAT BACKGROUND IN MIND, **I'VE TITLED OUR STUDY TODAY, "THE 12 YEAR OLD JESUS AT JERUSALEM."**

*** AND UNDER THAT THEME WE'LL LOOK AT 5 POINTS.** NO. 1 THE REQUIREMENT OF THE LAW TO CELEBRATE THE PASSOVER IN VV. 41&42; NO. 2 THE RETURN OF JOSEPH AND MARY TO GO HOME TO NAZARETH, VV. 43-46; NO. 3 THE REACTION OF MARY TO JESUS STAYING IN JERUSALEM, VV. 47&48; NO. 4 THE RESPONSE OF JESUS TO MARY, VV. 49-51; AND NO. 5 THE REPORT OF LUKE OF HOW JESUS GREW IN WISDOM AND STATURE, V. 52.

**** NOW WITH THOSE 5 POINTS AS OUR MARKERS TO WORK THROUGH THIS TEXT, LOOK AT V. 41 PLEASE WHERE WE'LL START TO SEE OUR FIRST POINT TODAY, THE REQUIREMENT.**

I. THE REQUIREMENT, (READ V. 41)

A. NOW GOING TO JERUSALEM WAS AN ANNUAL OCCURRENCE FOR JOSEPH AND MARY.

* HOWEVER, ONLY JOSEPH WAS REQUIRED BY **GOD'S LAW TO GO, FOR WOMEN WERE NOT** REQUIRED TO GO, THOUGH SOME RABBIS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED THEM TO DO SO; AND FOR A WOMAN TO ATTEND THE PASSOVER WAS CONSIDERED A SIGN OF UNUSUAL SPIRITUAL DEVOTION, WHICH REMIND US THAT MARY WAS A GODLY WOMAN, AT THIS POINT OF HER LIFE ABOUT 25 TO 26 YEARS OLD.

** SO JOSEPH AND MARY, A DEVOUT GODLY COUPLE, WERE UP ANNUALLY TO THE PASSOVER TO CELEBRATE WITH THE NATION OF ISRAEL **GOD'S DELIVERANCE** FROM BONDAGE IN EGYPT COMMUNICATED IN EXODUS 12:1-51.

*** AND PASSOVER WAS ONE OF 3 MAJOR ANNUAL FEASTS CELEBRATED BY JEWS WITH PENTECOST AND TABERNACLES.

1. NOW UNDERSTAND THAT IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING PASSOVER DAY WAS THE 7 DAY LONG FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD.

* THUS THE ENTIRE 8 DAY TIME FRAME EVENTUALLY BECAME KNOWN COLLECTIVELY AS PASSOVER.

** NOW ACCORDING TO EXODUS 23:17, 34:22&23 AND DEUTERONOMY 16:16, ALL JEWISH MEN WERE REQUIRED TO COME TO THE 3 MAJOR FEASTS.

*** HOWEVER, BY THE FIRST CENTURY, THE DISPERSION OF THE JEWS TO OTHER LANDS MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO COMPLY LITERALLY WITH THIS COMMANDMENT.

**** THEREFORE IT BECAME THE CUSTOM OF MANY TO ATTEND ONCE A YEAR AND SOME SUGGEST THAT IT IS WHAT JOSEPH AND MARY DID.

- NOW WITH THAT SAID LOOK AT V. 42 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 42. NOW AS THEY DID ANNUALLY, THE YEAR JESUS BECAME 12 JOSEPH AND MARY WENT UP TO JERUSALEM ACCORDING TO THE CUSTOM OF THE FEAST.

* AND AS I SAID EARLIER, THIS PARTICULAR PASSOVER WAS SIGNIFICANT FOR JESUS, FOR JEWISH BOYS BECAME ACCOUNTABLE TO THE LAW OF GOD AT 13.

** SO THE LAST COUPLE OF PASSOVERS BEFORE A BOY TURNED 13 WERE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN PREPARING HIM FOR HIS RESPONSIBILITY TO THE LAW.

*** SO THIS WAS A STRATEGIC PASSOVER FOR JESUS. AND JESUS AND JOSEPH AND MARY WILL CELEBRATE IT AND GO BACK TO NAZARETH, OR AT LEAST THAT WAS THE PLAN TO RETURN TO NAZARETH, LOOK AT V. 43 **PLEASE WHERE WE'LL START TO SEE OUR 2'D POINT TODAY, THE RETURN.**

II. THE RETURN, (READ V. 43)

A. NOW LUKE DOES NOT TAKE THE TIME TO DESCRIBE ANY DETAILS OF THAT PASSOVER, BUT PICKED UP THE STORY AFTERWARD, WHEN JOSEPH, MARY AND JESUS WERE RETURNING TO NAZARETH.

* AND WE DO HAVE THE DETAIL THAT THEY **SPENT THE "FULL NUMBER OF DAYS" THERE**, WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN 8, WHICH SHOWS THEIR DEVOTION AGAIN TO THE LORD, FOR SOME JEWS WOULD SPEND ONLY PART OF THE 8 DAYS THERE AND WOULD HEAD HOME.

** NOW INSTEAD OF RETURNING WITH THE **OTHERS, THE BOY JESUS, HE'S NOT A JEWISH MAN YET**, STAYED BEHIND IN JERUSALEM.

*** AND NOTHING WAS SAID TO HIS PARENTS, FOR LUKE SAYS **AT THE END OF V. 43, "HIS PARENTS WERE UNAWARE OF IT" WITH THAT SAID**, LOOK AT V. 44 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 44. NOW JOSEPH AND MARY ASSUMED THAT JESUS WAS IN THEIR TRAVELING CARAVAN, THEIR ENTOURAGE, THEIR TRAVELING PARTY.

* AND YOU MAY BE THINKING, WHAT BAD PARENTS. WELL, NOT SO.

** FOR UNDERSTAND THAT A TRIP FROM NAZARETH TO JERUSALEM WAS A DIFFICULT ARDUOUS TRIP OF ABOUT 80 MILES LASTING 3 TO 4 DAYS.

*** AND FOR PROTECTION AND FELLOWSHIP, PEOPLE DID NOT MAKE TRIPS LIKE THAT ALONE, PLUS MANY WOULD BE TRAVELING FROM THEIR AREA, SO THEY TRAVELED IN LARGE GROUPS.

**** NOW SUCH CARAVANS WOULD ALSO INCLUDE CHILDREN SINCE THE RABBIS TAUGHT THAT PASSOVER SHOULD BE A FAMILY CELEBRATION.

**** THEREFORE THE CUSTOM WAS WOMEN AND CHILDREN TRAVELED IN THE FRONT OF THE CARAVAN AND THE MEN AND YOUNG MEN IN THE BACK.

1. WELL JESUS WAS IN THAT IN-BETWEEN AGE, ALMOST A MAN, STILL A BOY, HE COULD FIT INTO EITHER GROUP PLUS OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS FROM NAZARETH WOULD BE TRAVELING WITH THEM, SO JOSEPH ASSUMED JESUS WAS WITH FRIENDS IN THE FRONT AND MARY ASSUMED JESUS WAS IN THE BACK WITH HIS FATHER OR BOYS, YOUNG MEN HIS AGE. EVERYBODY LOOKED OUT FOR EVERYBODY ELSE, SO NO WORRIES MATE.

* JESUS WAS ALSO A PERFECT CHILD, HIS PARENTS TRUSTED HIM COMPLETELY, NO NEED TO BE CONCERNED WITH FAMILY, FRIENDS AND A SON WHO WAS THE MODEL OF OBEDIENCE.

** HOWEVER, AT THE END OF THEIR FIRST DAY OF TRAVEL AS THEY STOP TO CAMP OUT FOR THE NIGHT, JOSEPH AND MARY START LOOKING FOR JESUS AMONG THEIR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS TO SPEND THE NIGHT TOGETHER AS A FAMILY. SO WHAT HAPPENED? LOOK AT V. 45 PLEASE.

C. READ V. 45. NOW JOSEPH AND MARY **CANNOT FIND JESUS, A PARENT'S WORST NIGHTMARE, LIKE WHEN YOU ARE AT A STORE OR A MALL AND THE CHILD YOU THOUGHT WAS WITH YOU IS GONE AND YOU DON'T SEE THEM.**

* AND MANY PARENTS KNOW THAT FEELING, **IT'S SCARY, IT'S ALMOST A PANIC TIME,** HOLLERING FOR THEM, MOVING QUICKLY TO FIND THEM.

** **WELL, JOSEPH AND MARY CAN'T FIND JESUS** AND THEY HAVE ONLY ONE COURSE OF ACTION, RETURN TO JERUSALEM, TRAVEL A DAY BACK TO JERUSALEM. LOOK AT V. 46 PLEASE.

D. READ V. 46. NOW THEY TRAVEL A DAY FROM JERUSALEM, A DAY BACK TO JERUSALEM, 2 **DAYS OF TRAVELING AND ON THE 3'D DAY** AFTER JESUS IS MISSING THEY FIND HIM IN THE TEMPLE COURT.

* AND INCREDIBLY JESUS WAS SITTING IN THE MIDST OF THE TEACHERS, BOTH LISTENING TO THEM AND ASKING THEM QUESTIONS.

** AND IN THAT DAY, THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN A TYPICAL, TRADITIONAL SETTING FOR TEACHERS IN ISRAEL. THE TEACHER WOULD BE SEATED, WITH THE STUDENTS SITTING IN THEIR MIDST. AND STUDENTS WOULD GATHER AROUND A TEACHER OR TEACHERS AND STIMULATE THE DISCUSSION BY ASKING QUESTIONS.

*** AND AFTER PASSOVER, MANY OF THE EMINENT TEACHERS WOULD HAVE BEEN IN JERUSALEM, SO WHAT A TIME TO BE THERE. SO JESUS SEIZED THE MOMENT AT 12 TO DIALOGUE WITH SOME OF THE GREATEST MINDS OF THE LAW OF GOD IN ISRAEL.

**** WELL, WHAT WOULD BE THE REACTION BY THOSE WHO HEARD JESUS AND FROM HIS MOTHER? WELL VV. 47&48 ANSWER THOSE **QUESTIONS WHERE WE'LL SEE OUR THIRD POINT** TODAY ,THE REACTION. LOOK AT V. 47 PLEASE, TO BEGIN WITH.

III. THE REACTION, (READ V. 47)

A. NOW SO IMPRESSIVE WERE JESUS' QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS IT SAYS THAT ALL WHO HEARD HIM WERE AMAZED.

* AND THE GREEK WORD AMAZED HERE IS TRANSLATED ASTONISHED IN THE KJV AND NKJV AND LIT. MEANS TO BE STUNNED, THEY WERE BESIDE THEMSELVES. NEVER A BOY SPOKE LIKE THIS BOY.

**** AND BELOVED, JESUS' QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS WERE PENETRATING, INSIGHTFUL AND PROFOUND; AND CERTAINLY HIS WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE WENT FAR FAR BEYOND THAT OF ANY 12 YEAR OLD BOY THEY HAVE HAD EVER HEARD OR KNOWN.**

***** AND FINALLY AFTER 3 DAYS JOSEPH AND MARY FIND JESUS. AND NOTICE THEIR REACTION IN V. 48. LOOK AT V. 48 PLEASE.**

B. READ V. 48. NOW WHEN JOSEPH AND MARY SEE JESUS, THEY ARE ASTONISHED! THEY ARE SHOCKED, THEY ARE BLOWN AWAY.

*** AND POSSIBLY BY TWO THINGS. NO. 1, WHAT IS COMING OUT OF HIS MOUTH, HIS THEOLOGY, HIS COMMAND OF SCRIPTURE, AND NO. 2 HIS LOCATION.**

**** THEY PROBABLY ASSUMED FROM HIS PAST MANNER OF LIFE AND OBEDIENCE, HE WAS LOST. THEY PROBABLY EXPECTED JESUS TO BE SEARCHING FRANTICALLY FOR HIS PARENTS.**

*** YET INSTEAD, MARY AND JOSEPH FOUND JESUS SITTING CALMLY IN THE TEMPLE AREA, DIALOGUING WITH THE ELITE TEACHERS IN JUDAISM.

**** **NOW WHAT ABOUT MARY'S REACTION** HERE?

1. WELL SHE HAS TO BE BOTH RELIEVED AND UPSET, AS ANY CONCERNED PARENT WOULD BE UNDER THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES.

* SO WHAT SHE SAYS IS UNDERSTANDABLE, **AND IN EXASPERATION SHE SAYS, "SON, WHY HAVE YOU TREATED US THIS WAY?"** (SPOKEN LIKE A TRUE MOTHER)

** AND THEN SHE FOLLOWS UP THOSE WORDS **WITH, "BEHOLD, YOUR FATHER AND I HAVE BEEN ANXIOUSLY LOOKING FOR YOU."** WE WERE DISTRESSED, WE HAD GREAT PAIN, WE WERE HURTING AS ANY GOOD PARENT WOULD.

***** AND UNDERSTAND, JESUS' BEHAVIOR IN THIS INCIDENT WAS TOTALLY UNLIKE ANYTHING MARY AND JOSEPH HAD EVER EXPERIENCED AND THUS TO THEM WAS UNEXPLAINABLE, IT DIDN'T MAKE SENSE FOR JESUS TO DO THIS FROM THEIR HUMAN PERSPECTIVE. BUT FROM THE DIVINE PERSPECTIVE, IT WILL. LOOK AT V. 49 PLEASE, WHERE WE'LL START TO SEE OUR 4TH POINT TODAY, THE RESPONSE OF JESUS.**

IV. THE RESPONSE, (READ V. 49)

A. NOW THESE ARE THE FIRST RECORDED WORDS OF JESUS. AND THESE WORDS EXPLAIN TO US WHAT IS GOING ON HERE THAT JESUS IS NOT BEING DISOBEDIENT OR DISRESPECTING TO HIS PARENTS, BUT THAT HE HAD A HIGHER MISSION, A DIVINE MUST, A DIVINE HAVE TO BE, IN HIS LIFE.

* AND WHAT WAS THAT? HE MUST BE, HE HAD **TO BE IN HIS FATHER'S HOUSE DOING HIS FATHER'S BUSINESS, TWO DIFFERENT** TRANSLATIONS, HOWEVER THEY ARE RECONCILED WHEN YOU SEE THAT HE HAD TO BE IN **HIS FATHER'S HOUSE, THE TEMPLE WAS** THE PLACE HE WAS **TO BE DOING HIS FATHER'S** BUSINESS.

** THEREFORE JESUS STAYING BEHIND WAS NOT AN ACT OF DISOBEDIENCE TO HIS PARENTS. THIS ACT MARKED A TRANSITION, FOR JESUS WAS MOVING FROM RESPONSIBILITY TO HIS EARTHLY PARENTS TO RESPONSIBILITY TO HIS FATHER.

*** JESUS MADE IT CLEAR THAT HIS FIRST PRIORITY WAS TO DO THE WILL OF HIS HEAVENLY FATHER, AND HE ALWAYS DID HIS WILL WHICH IS THE GREATER WILL, QUOTE JOHN 6:38.

***** THEN IN JOHN 4:34, JESUS SAID, "MY FOOD IS TO DO THE WILL OF HIM WHO SENT ME AND TO ACCOMPLISH HIS WORK."**

1. IN JOHN 5:30 JESUS SAID: "I CAN DO NOTHING ON MY OWN INITIATIVE. AS I HEAR, I JUDGE; AND MY JUDGMENT IS JUST, BECAUSE I DO NOT SEEK MY OWN WILL, BUT THE WILL OF HIM THAT SENT ME."

* SO WHAT WAS THE HIGHER WILL OF JESUS? **TO DO HIS FATHER'S BUSINESS, TO BE IN THE TEMPLE, TO DO HIS FATHER'S WILL, TO FULFILL HIS MISSION IN COMING INTO THIS WORLD AS GOD THE SON.**

** AND THIS MEANT THAT WHEN JESUS WAS AT THE TEMPLE, HE WAS RIGHT WHERE HE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE, RIGHT WHERE HIS FATHER WANTED HIM TO BE!

*** SO JESUS SAID WHY ARE YOU LOOKING FOR ME? AND HE WAS NOT TRYING TO BE A SMART ALECK, BUT MARY AND JOSEPH BOTH HAD AN ANGEL SPEAK TO THEM BEFORE JESUS WAS BORN.

**** MARY HEARD WHAT ELIZABETH HAD SAID ABOUT HER SON. THE SHEPHERDS AND LATER THE MAGI TESTIFIED TO WHOM JESUS WAS. SIMEON AND ANNA BORE WITNESS TO WHO HE WAS.

2. SO WHO WAS JESUS? WELL, HE IN THE **ULTIMATE SENSE WAS NOT JOSEPH'S SON NOR EVEN MARY'S SON, HE WAS THE ETERNAL SON** OF GOD, WHO CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN. AND AS SUCH, HE WAS UNDER THE ULTIMATE AUTHORITY OF HIS HEAVENLY FATHER, NOT HIS EARTHLY PARENTS.

* AND OBVIOUSLY, IN THEIR HUMANNESS, JOSEPH AND MARY LOST SIGHT OF THAT, HE HAD A HIGHER MISSION AS THE SON OF GOD, GOD THE SON. THEY DID NOT UNDERSTAND.

** BUT ALSO THERE IS SOMETHING ELSE THAT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT HERE, THE STATEMENT **CALLING GOD, "MY FATHER" IS THE FIRST TIME** IN SCRIPTURE THAT ANY INDIVIDUAL CLAIMED GOD AS HIS PERSONAL FATHER.

*** AND YES IN THE O.T., **GOD'S COVENANT** PEOPLE, THE JEWS VIEWED JEHOVAH AS THE FATHER OF ALL IN A CREATIVE SENSE AND THE FATHER OF ISRAEL IN A NATIONAL SENSE.

**** BUT NO ONE HAD THE AUDACITY, THE BOLDNESS OR ARROGANCE TO CLAIM GOD AS HIS FATHER IN A PERSONAL INTIMATE SENSE AS JESUS DID.

3. BUT IN THE INNER WORKINGS OF THE **TRINITY, GOD, WAS JESUS' FATHER IN THEIR** PURPOSE AND RELATIONSHIP AND ONENESS OF THE TRINITY. JESUS IS THE ETERNAL SON OF GOD, WHICH NO ONE ELSE CAN CLAIM. JESUS AT THIS POINT KNEW WHO HE WAS, GOD THE SON, IN VITAL ONENESS WITH HIS FATHER, NOT CREATED BY HIS FATHER, BUT EQUAL AND YET IN HIS INCARNATION AND COMING, SUBMISSIVE TO HIS FATHER.

* PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT JESUS AS THE SON DOES NOT REFER TO ORIGIN, BUT TO NATURE. THUS THE TERM SON IS USED TO REFER TO JESUS CHRIST TO ESTABLISH HIS BEING OF THE SAME ESSENCE AND NATURE WITH THE SAME RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES AS GOD. JESUS IS GOD. JESUS IS ONE OF A KIND, PREEMINENT AND FOR **THE FIRST TIME IN SCRIPTURE CALLS GOD "MY FATHER."**

** WELL, THE QUESTION AT THIS POINT IS HOW DID JOSEPH AND MARY RESPOND? WELL, V. 50 GIVES US THE ANSWER. LOOK AT V. 50 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 50. NOW AS SOME OF US DO NOT UNDERSTAND FULLY THE TRINITY, JOSEPH AND MARY DID NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE PROFOUND STATEMENT WHICH JESUS MADE TO THEM.

* IT WAS A REVEALED MYSTERY TO THEM AT THIS POINT, AS THE TRINITY IN A SENSE IS A REVEALED MYSTERY TO US. WE BELIEVE IN THE TRUTH, WE ACCEPT THE TRUTH, BUT IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND IN OUR HUMANNES, THERE IS NO TRUTH LIKE THAT IN HUMANITY AND ON EARTH.

** AND JOSEPH AND MARY UNDERSTOOD THAT JESUS WAS THE MESSIAH, CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE SON OF DAVID.

*** HOWEVER, THE FULL MEANING OF HIS DIVINE SONSHIP AND RELATIONSHIP TO HIS HEAVENLY FATHER ELUDED THEM.

*** AND MARY AND JOSEPH WOULD NOT BE **ALONE, FOR IN CHRIST'S PUBLIC MINISTRY** THERE WOULD BE TIMES THAT HIS DISCIPLES WOULD FAIL TO GRASP WHAT JESUS WAS SAYING, INCLUDING HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION.

**** BUT UNDERSTAND IN BALANCE, AS JESUS WAS 100% GOD AND 100% MAN, HE WAS NO REBEL EITHER TO HIS PARENTS FOR LOOK AT V. 51 PLEASE.

C. READ V. 51. NOW UNDERSTAND THAT AS A 12 YEAR OLD, THE TIME FOR JESUS TO LEAVE JOSEPH AND MARY HAD NOT YET ARRIVED IN THE PLAN OF HIS HEAVENLY FATHER.

* HENCE, JESUS WENT DOWN WITH JOSEPH AND MARY TO NAZARETH, AND HE CONTINUED IN SUBJECTION, BEING SUBJECT TO THEM.

**** FOR CHRIST'S RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS**
HEAVENLY FATHER DID NOT YET NULLIFY,
ABOLISH, ANNUL, ABROGATE HIS
RESPONSIBILITY TO OBEY HIS EARTHLY
PARENTS.

***** AND CHRIST'S SUBMISSION AND** OBEDIENCE
TO THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT TO HONOR HIS
EARTHLY PARENTS WAS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF
JESUS' PERFECT OBEDIENCE TO THE LAW OF
GOD.

**** AND FOR MARY, SHE TREASURED ALL THESE
THINGS IN HER HEART. SHE WAS CONTINUALLY
AMAZED BY HER SON AND WHAT HE DID AND
WOULD DO, TO BECOME HER SAVIOR.

1. AND ONE LAST VERSE AND POINT TO
QUICKLY LOOK AT. THE REPORT OF LUKE, LOOK
AT V. 52 PLEASE.

V. THE REPORT, (LOOK AT V. 52 PLEASE)

A. NOW V. 52 IS AN AMAZING VERSE, FOR IN IT, LUKE REPORTS, LITERALLY GIVES US A **SUMMARY STATEMENT OF JESUS' LIFE IN NAZARETH** FROM THE AGE OF 12 TO THE AGE OF 30 WHEN HE STARTS HIS PUBLIC MINISTRY IN LUKE 3:23,

* LUKE GIVES US A VERY QUICK REPORT OF **JESUS' LIFE FOR 18 YEARS, BASICALLY SILENT YEARS.**

** AND THE REPORT IS JESUS INCREASED IN WISDOM AND STATURE, THAT HE PROGRESSED, ADVANCED, GREW IN WISDOM. AND IN THE NORMAL PROCESS OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, HIS INTELLECTUAL KNOWLEDGE OF DIVINE TRUTH INCREASED. HE HAD TO READ AND STUDY IN WHAT HE LIMITED HIMSELF TO IN BECOMING A MAN, FOR AS GOD HE KNEW EVERYTHING, BUT AS A MAN, HE WOULD PROGRESS TO PERFECT WISDOM AS THE GOD-MAN.

*** AND THEN, IN PHYSICAL STATURE JESUS GREW AND ADVANCED, HE PROGRESSED AS **HEALTHY HUMAN BEINGS DO. HE DIDN'T COME OUT OF MARY'S VIRGIN WOMB KNOWING EVERYTHING AND BEING A MATURE MAN, THANKFULLY FOR MARY'S SAKE. HE GREW AS A BABY, AS AN INFANT, AS A TODDLER, AS A 12 YEAR OLD TO BECOME FULLY MATURE PHYSICALLY.**

**** BUT ALSO JESUS GREW IN FAVOR WITH HIS FATHER AND MAN. HE WAS STRENGTHENED BY HIS VICTORIES OVER EVERY TEMPTATION AS HE WAS SINLESS AND FOUND FAVOR WITH MAN AT THAT STAGE OF HIS LIFE AS HE INCREASED IN SOCIAL MATURITY AND THE RESPECT THAT WAS GIVEN HIM AS A PERFECT PERSON IN EVERYTHING.

1. AND THAT'S JOHN'S REPORT OF JESUS IN HIS LIFE AT NAZARETH FROM 12 TO 30.

AS WE COME TO THE END OF OUR STUDY TODAY, (1) WHAT CAN WE EXTRACT PRACTICALLY?

* WELL ONE THING TIME WISE I WANT TO DRIVE HOME THAT I AM BORROWING FROM PHILIP **RYKEN'S COMMENTARY ON LUKE.**

** AND THAT IS, WE AS CHRISTIANS OFTEN STRUGGLE WITH SUBMISSION.

*** CHILDREN, DO NOT ALWAYS WANT TO OBEY THEIR PARENTS.

*** WIVES, DO NOT ALWAYS WANT TO RANK **UNDER THEIR HUSBAND'S AUTHORITY.**

**** AS WORKERS, WE DO NOT ALWAYS WANT TO OBEY OUR BOSSES.

(2) AS CHURCH MEMBERS, WE DO NOT ALWAYS WANT TO LISTEN TO OUR ELDERS – PASTORS.

* AND AS CITIZENS OF OUR NATION, WE DO NOT ALWAYS WANT TO FOLLOW OUR LEADERS.

** BELOVED, WE ARE TEMPTED TO DO EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE, TO INSIST ON OUR WAY.

*** YET, OUR GREAT AND HOLY LORD CALLS US TO SERVE HIM BY SUBMITTING TO THE PEOPLE HE HAS PLACED IN POSITIONS OF AUTHORITY OVER US, UNTIL THOSE AUTHORITIES TELL US TO DO THINGS THAT ARE CONTRARY TO THE WORD OF GOD, ACTS 5:29.

**** BUT IN ALL OTHER THINGS WE ARE TO SUBMIT TO OUR AUTHORITIES.

(3) AND RATHER THAN STRUGGLING WITH THIS, WE NEED TO EMBRACE IT, AS JESUS EMBRACED IT.

* FOR WHEN WE LEARN TO EMBRACE IT THE WAY JESUS DID, WE WILL EXPERIENCE GREAT **JOY AND GROW IN GRACE, SEEING GOD'S** PROVIDENTIAL SOVEREIGN HAND BEHIND EVERYTHING.

** FOR I REMIND YOU, BELIEVER, JESUS **SUBMITTED TO HIS FATHER'S WILL FOR OUR** SALVATION. NOT MY WILL, BUT THINE BE DONE.

*** **BELIEVER, WHAT IS GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR** LIFE TODAY? THE ANSWER IS OBEDIENCE TO **GOD'S WORD AND SUBMISSION TO THOSE IN** AUTHORITY OVER US.

**** GOD GROWS US AS HIS CHILDREN AS WE SUBMIT OUR WILL TO HIS WILL.

(4) AND AS WE DO THAT, GOD'S SPECIFIC UNSEEN WILL BECOMES CLEAR AS WE OBEY HIS WRITTEN WILL. MAY WE GET THAT TODAY! MAY WE JOYFULLY EMBRACE OBEDIENCE TO **GOD'S WORD, AND SUBMISSION TO THOSE IN** AUTHORITY OVER US.

* AND IF YOU ARE HERE TODAY WITHOUT THE **SAVIOR, GOD'S COMMAND** FOR YOU IS TO REPENT, QUOTE ACTS 17:30, ACTS 20:21.

**** IF YOU DON'T KNOW JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR LORD AND SAVIOR, BOW AND SUBMIT TO HIM BY TURNING FROM SIN TO TRUSTING THE ONLY SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS. (LET'S PRAY)**