

THE LIFE OF CHRIST IN THE GOSPELS
 Class #39 – Thursday PM JUNE 08, 2006

Ensure fellowship with God through 1 John 1:9

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Review -

- The humanity of Christ developed as every human child develops.
- He continued to grow and become physically strong by learning carpentry, the trade of His foster-father, Joseph.
- He became known as “The Carpenter”.
- He was also filled with God’s wisdom as He was taught by His parents in the home and the teacher of the local synagogue.
- He had a phenomenal command of the Greek, Aramaic and Hebrew.
- At the age of 12 traveled in a caravan with his parents, friends, and relatives from Nazareth to Jerusalem for the Feast of Passover. This was a big event for the Jewish people.

GALILEE

NAZARETH

SAMARIA
An area normally avoided

JUDEA

JERUSALEM

CARAVAN TRIP FROM NAZARETH – WITH RELATIVES AND FRIENDS.

CHILDREN ARE ALL NORMALLY WALKING TOGETHER.

THERE ARE KNOWN REST STOPS ALONG THE CARAVAN ROUTE.

THIS 3-5 DAY TRIP – OFTEN HANDLED IN A ROUTINE MANNER FROM YEAR TO YEAR.

NORMAL ROUTE

JERICO

- On these trips the men & women normally walked in separate groups.
- Therefore, Joseph and Mary were probably not walking together on the return trip to Nazareth

Luke 2:43-52

(43) and as they were returning, after spending the full number of days, the boy Jesus **stayed behind** in Jerusalem. But His parents were unaware of it,

“Stayed behind” - ὑπομένω

HUPOMENO – “*Remained behind*” (active voice-emphasis on His unilateral decision)

- Joseph and Mary assumed that He was in the return caravan on the trip back.
- They assume He is with the caravan – how did that happen? Remember that Mary was probably walking with the women and Joseph was with the men. They assumed He was with the other or running around with the other children.

(44) but supposed Him to be in the caravan, and went a day's journey; and they began looking for Him among their relatives and acquaintances.

(45) When they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem looking for Him.

(46) Then, after three days they found Him in the temple...

- Day one – a day's journey out from Jerusalem toward Nazareth.
- Day two – the return trip back to Jerusalem from the place where they realized He was missing.
- Day three – a search of Jerusalem for Jesus finding Him in the temple.

...sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and **asking them** questions.

“Asking them” - ἐπερωτάω

EPEROTAO – “*Asking very intense questions*” of men who had mastered the Law”

The men He is asking these questions to are three to five times His age.

(47) And all who heard Him were **amazed** at His understanding (**His spiritual understanding**) and His answers (**they were asking Him questions as well**).

“Amazed” - ἐξίστημι

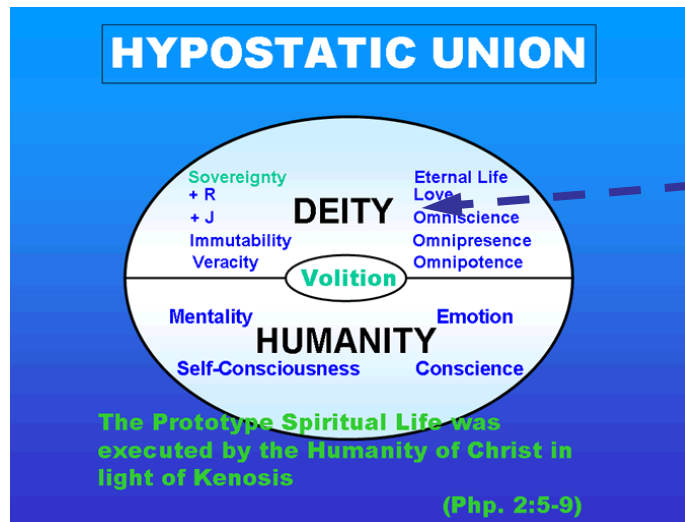
EXISTEMI – “*Driven out of mental equilibrium, senses or mental balance*”

Every single answer [from this 12 year old boy] was astounding to them [these doctors of the Law].

He is making applications that they had NEVER thought of!

These applications were beyond their ability.

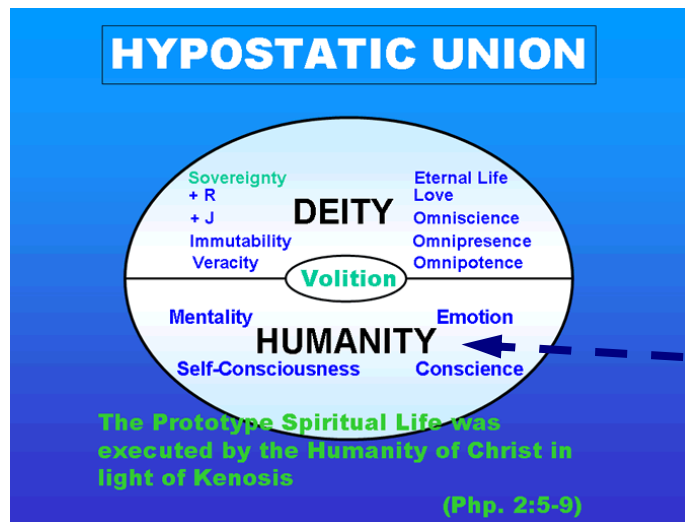
**Academics will only carry you so far in
the Word of God!**



A NUMBER OF PEOPLE WOULD SAY THAT HE IS ANSWERING QUESTIONS FROM HIS DEITY.

BUT- HE WAS ANSWERING QUESTIONS FROM HIS HUMANITY.

From *Jesus Christ our Lord*, John F. Walvoord, pg. 116



NOTE THE THINGS THAT BELONG TO HIS HUMANITY.

Summary - -

- The attributes of Deity were not transferred to Humanity.
- Likewise the attributes of Deity did not affect His Humanity and were not reduced in capacity by His Humanity either.
- Same from His Humanity – there was no transfer to Deity it had no affect and no capacity was altered.
- VOLTIONAL being central.
- These two natures were inseparably united in such as way that there is no mixture or loss of their separate identity and without loss or transfer of any property or attribute of one nature to the other. *Great is the mystery of Christ.*
- The union thus consummated is a personal or hypostatic union in that Christ is one-person, not two and is everlasting and keeping with the everlasting character of both the human and divine natures.

In light of this, He is answering these questions as the unique Person that He was.

Hebrews 12:2

(2) Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the **author** and **perfecter** of faith...

“Author” - ἀρχηγός

ARCHEGOS – “Originator, founder or pioneer”

- Christ supplying the impetus for others to follow.
- First to clear a path in the essence of being a pioneer.

“Perfecter” - τελειωτής

TELEIOTES – “Perfecter”

From TELEIOO – “to complete, finish or fulfill”

Jesus Christ is the first Man to begin something and set the precedence for others to follow and he is also the One who finishes path for others are to follow.

“Faith” - πίστις

PISTIS – “of faith” a specific faith – reference to the spiritual life.

- The prototype spiritual life!
 - Since He was the pioneer of that spiritual life and fulfilled that life in its entirety from His humanity, He was able to make spiritual applications that the professors of the Law could not make.
 - He had something available to Him that the others did not – the Holy Spirit.
 - The Spirit of God was upon Him and He was taught by the Spirit.
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- His answers, at 12 years old, are driving the doctors of the Law out of their mental equilibrium.
 - They are completely beyond their capacity to understand His applications.
 - And the teachers, regardless of their academic preparations, could only go so far in the word of God.

POD – Spiritual understanding and application is not contingent upon age or educational accomplishments.

- Spiritual understanding and application IS contingent upon your relationship with the Holy Spirit.
Fellowship + faith + situational awareness to the mentorship responsibilities of God the Holy Spirit.

How long you have “been on someone’s ministry” has no bearing on your spiritual growth or your ability to apply the things you have learned!

(48) When they (Joseph & Mary) saw Him, they were **astonished**...

“Astonished” - ἐκπλήσσω

EKPLESSO – “*To be overwhelmed*”

Remember what He was doing when they saw Him – He was questioning the doctors of the Law, the teachers in the academic center of the entire Jewish world (the temple). He was questioning them and they were questioning Him – and His answers were driving them “out of their mental balance”.

WHY? Because He had a spiritual life that they did not have!

Notice that it is Mary who is the first to speak.

The women would always be the first to speak . . . WHY?

- Women are responders and they interpret their son’s actions personally! It offends them when others do not meet their expectations. In that state of mind, a female will never be anything except **EKPLESSO** – “overwhelmed”.
- In that state proper application of doctrine is hindered.
- **When the female’s eyes are on herself** – how she feels – because of what someone else has done, she is ruffled.
- The key is how one responds with Bible doctrine.
- When the female is functioning on positive signals with Divine viewpoint, resulting from metabolized Bible Doctrine circulating in her stream of consciousness, she will not be focused on HOW SHE FEELS.
- **PRINCIPLE: Focusing on self prevents correct spiritual application.**

- This is why God placed the man in a position of authority as the leader of the home and the family.
- As initiators, men are not ruffled as easily as women because they are predisposed to think before they initiate or act.
- Men will normally think of the repercussions of their decisions before they act.
- As leaders, men need to make decisions from a position of strength in fellowship with Bible doctrine.

...and His mother said to Him, "**Son**, why have You treated us this way?"

“Son” - τέκνον

TEKNON – “*Child*”

Mary is focused on her relationship to Jesus as her child; establishing her authority.

“Treated” - ποιέω

POIEO – “*To do or to make*”

“Child, why have You done this to us?”

Think about this –

1. The doctors of the Law have been driven out of their mental equilibrium with, not only His questions, but His answers to their questions.
2. And here comes mom . . . “CHILD, why have You done this to us?”

3. Mary thinks that His actions have been disrespectful.
4. His actions were NOT disrespectful IN LIGHT OF WHO HE WAS. Something Mary failed to realize.

Not only is He the Messiah, but at the age of 12 He is considered a son of the Law.

He had a handle on the Law, enough, to live His life as unto the Lord.

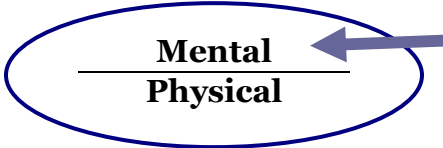
He was now responsible to make sacrifices on His own instead of having His father have to take them up for Him, on His behalf.

...Behold, Your father and I have been **anxiously** looking for You."

This is exactly what the female does. Mary is getting Joseph involved while he stands on the sidelines!

Notice he is not saying anything.

“Anxiously” - ὀδυνάω
 ODUNAO – “To be caused pain”



And here Mary is focused on her emotional (mental) pain.

“You’ve hurt us by doing this!”
 “A woman who wants the child to have a guilt complex and pay for what He has done with remorse”

(49) And He said to them, "Why is it that you were looking for Me?..."

Jesus expresses disappointment because Mary and Joseph were not making the spiritual application meant for them in light of everything that had been revealed to them up to that point about who He was.

...Did you not **know** that I **had** to be in My Father's house?"

“Know” - οἶδα
 OIDA – “To know”

This describes an event completed in the past with results in the past.

Conveys the message that Joseph and Mary knew who He was – in the past!
 This is because of what had been revealed to them – remember Gabriel?
 Remember the testimony of Elizabeth to Mary?
 Joseph had previously received three dreams by the Angel of the Lord.
 What he had learned in previous conversations with Mary.
 What He had learned in the Law and the Prophets.

THEY KNOW WHO HE IS!
Yet they failed to make the correct spiritual application.

“Had” - δεῖ

(**Interpretive**) “...Did you not **know** [because you used to know in light of what has been revealed to you] that [it was necessary for Me] to be in My Father's house?” – In light of His divine identity.

This is the first account in the word of God where Jesus is aware of whom He is.

- The promised descendent of David and Abraham – the Messiah!
- The One who was born to rule from David's throne on earth over an eternal kingdom.

How did the humanity of Christ come to know who He was?

- From His mother who “**treasured up all things in her heart.**”
- Application of things that He learned in the Law and the Prophets.

Most importantly – He was living the prototype spiritual life. God the Holy Spirit testified to His human spirit who He was.

At 12 years old He knew who He was!

(50) But they did not understand the statement which He had made to them.

POD – Focusing on self stifles the application of Divine viewpoint (doctrine) and hinders your spiritual understanding of things.

POD – Focusing on self prevents parents from identifying their children's divine design and facilitating the plan of God for their life.

The job of a Christian parent is to facilitate your child's execution of the unique spiritual life.

How often do you have a plan for your son or daughter – and yet you never laid this before the Lord in His throne room of grace, did you? You are too focused on yourself and it's not about you. It's about who God wants your children to be and to do and wherever and whenever He wants them to go.

The humility of Christ - -

(51) And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and **He continued in subjection to them;** and His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

He made no further unilateral decisions until He rightfully could. Joseph apparently died early and Jesus, being the first born, took over the leadership of the family at that point.

Philippians 2:8

(8) Being found in appearance as a man, **He humbled Himself by becoming obedient...**

One way He humbled Himself was being in subjection to His parents.

Remember that He is the One who spoke the universe into existence, yet He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death. Review **Col 1:15-17**

(52) And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

These passages are the only reference we have into the boyhood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.