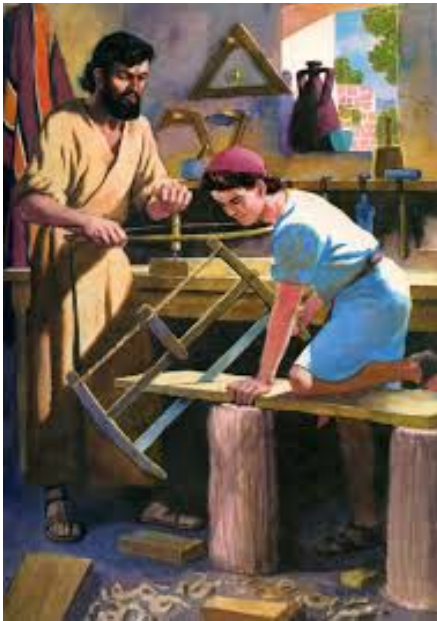


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The Boyhood of Jesus

Luke 2: 41-52



Jesus' visit to **Jerusalem** as a **twelve-year-old boy** is the only account of **His boyhood** found in the four gospels. The purpose is to transition into **Yeshua's** ministry by demonstrating **His** exceptional spiritual growth. The account reveals **His two themes**. **The first theme is Jesus' growing awareness of His unique relationship with God the Father**. This theme climaxes in **Luke 2:49** when **Jesus** announces that **He** stayed in the **City of David** because **He had to be in His Father's house**. Although **Yeshua** continued to be in submission to **His** human parents (**Luke 2:51**), **His** obedience to **His** heavenly **Father** surpassed all earthly commitments. **The second theme is Jesus' growth in wisdom**, as revealed in **His** dialog with the Jewish rabbis **in the Temple (Isaiah 11:2)**. Consequently, **Yeshua** demonstrated **His** messianic credentials at an early age.¹⁸⁹

The scarcity of the records of the silent years in **Nazareth** stands in stark contrast to the high state of physical, mental and spiritual development that we find in **Yeshua** when **He** began **His** public ministry. We are left largely to conjecture as to how **He** must have exercised **His** gifts of teaching and preaching during the years of **His** youth. Ultimately, we

must conclude that **He** not only interacted with the current issues of **His** times, but, that **He** had given long hours of meditation to the great theme that became the core of the message of **His** public ministry. Many a time, **He** must have climbed the stony path that led to the hilltop above **Nazareth**, and remained for hours in meditation and prayer. When **He** emerged on our horizon in **His** ministry at a wedding in Cana (**to see link click [Bq](#) - Jesus Changes Water Into Wine**), it was with the full splendor of spiritual power.¹⁹⁰