

Context of Luke 2:41-52: >>Luke begins in his Gospel about Jesus, the King from David. David is mentioned a number of times in the first 2 chapters of Luke: Luke 1:27, 32, 2:4, & 11. Luke heralds that Jesus, the Davidic King, has arrived, Luke 1:67-69. Luke 1:78 contain similar words to David's from 2 Sam. 23:4, concerning the Dayspring (Dawn), morning light of Christ.

>>The description of Samuel (1 Sam. 2:21; 3:19) and John the Baptist (Luke 1:80) as ones that *grew* in strength- Samuel pointed David, the king, to Israel. John points Christ, the **King**, to Israel. Luke is showing the similarities of David and Jesus' kingship.

>>Hannah in 1 Sam. 2 and Anna in Luke 2:36-38 (Hanna in the Greek) attend worship at the temple praying for redemption to come to Israel. Both testified that a king was coming to Israel, 1 Sam. 2:10, Luke 2:38.

>>Luke 2:40, speaks of Jesus becoming strong, filled with wisdom and the grace and favor of God. Jesus is the more advanced Righteous King of Israel, excelling Solomon in all his wisdom, and filled with favor and grace from God the Father, because Jesus is the Son of the Most High (Luke 1:35).

7 Critical Points of the Text: Luke 2:41-52:

1. **The Feast of Passover:** V41, Joseph and Mary made the trip to Jerusalem each year according to the command of the Lord, Ex. 23:14-17, Deut. 16:1-8.
2. **Jesus' Age of 12 Years:** V42, the Jewish custom of "bar mitzvah" is when a son or daughter reaches the age of accountability, usually around 13 years. It means "son (or daughter- "bat") of the commandment." Jesus already twelve would be 13 the next time He makes the trip to the temple.
3. **Jesus' Decision to Stay Behind:** V43, the family was staying through the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which included a 7th day of rest. The family having been there 8 days, made their way back home along with their extended family. V44, they walked a day towards home. V45, they would have made it back to Jerusalem in the evening time the next day. V46, they found Jesus the following day in the temple. V45, Joseph and Mary sought Jesus looking all around for Him. V46, Jesus astonished the teachers and those listening to Jesus' intensive "asking" of questions and answers from/to the leaders.
4. **Jesus' Wisdom Modeling Solomon:** Jesus demonstrated wisdom surpassing Solomon at 12. 1 Kings 3:28 talks of the fear of the people of Solomon because he was wise to make judgements, being given wisdom from God.
5. **The Shock of His Parents:** His parents were amazed, but this isn't the same type of "amaze" from V47. In V48, Mary and Joseph were flabbergasted, put out of their minds, in painful anxiousness that Jesus wasn't seeking them out, she and Joseph were seeking for Him.
6. **Mary's Claim that Joseph is Jesus' Father:** V48, "Your father," Mary is referring to Joseph. V49, Jesus reminds her that God is His Father and He should be about His Father's house.
7. **Jesus' Claim:** V49, "Did you not know," this has a literal meaning of, "had you not known?" Mary knew Jesus was God's Son but had forgotten. Jesus uses the word "must" in V49 to describe that He "must" be about His Father's business.

>>Mary and Joseph should have remembered Jesus' place in Jerusalem as the King of David but did not, V50. Jesus didn't insist on staying, V51, and went home in obedience to His parents for another 18 years, until His time to begin His ministry begins.

Further Discussion and Application

Luke wants us to understand that the path to being the Davidic King begins with a life lived as the Son of Man. Jesus is able to endure the lack of faith of His family and followers and showed that by being subject to His parents for 18 more years, Jesus demonstrated humility. Jesus would later humble Himself to die on the cross for us as the Son of Man. How does the sufferings He endured demonstrate His love for us? How does His life identify with being a man and how He kept the Law perfectly, served His family, and obeyed His parents?

Jesus is our example of an obedient life. Phil. 2:5-11, describes what Christ endured and subjected Himself to in order to demonstrate the glory of God. As a result, every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. What is the life of a believer to demonstrate from Phil. 2:1-4?

God's plan and execution is perfect. There is no wisdom or council against His purposes and ways. How do we see God's wisdom and power displayed by sending our Savior and sending ahead of Him Scripture and prophecy to confirm His coming? As you've grown in Christ and the knowledge of His word, what prophecies stand out more than ever? Which ones did you learn years after becoming a Christian that have stuck with you?

God's people believe His Words. It is the sign of a believer. 1 John 5:9-13 gives us a proof that we are God's children, that witness is believing in the Son of God, V10. Part of this witness is a testimony that God has given us eternal life, and that life is in His Son, V11. How does Jesus coming in the flesh, living a life of obedience in subjection to His Father and to Joseph and Mary, demonstrate that He indeed was born of a virgin, fully man and fully God?

When Jesus' was baptized and began His ministry, He showed the grace of God to all who heard His words, those He healed, those who received warnings and rebukes, and those He saved. Jesus died for us while we were still in sin. Give some examples of how your love for Christ and His word has grown throughout your walk? How do you stoke and stir up your love for Him through life's ups and downs?