

# **“Luke 2:39-52: Jesus: The Perfect Substitute”**

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## ***Jesus is your perfect substitute, so flee to him & follow him.***

39 And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. 40 And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

41 Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. 42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. 43 And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, 44 but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, 45 and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. 46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. 47 And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. 48 And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." 49 And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" 50 And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. 51 And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

### **Intro: Losing Esther in the Zoo.**

#### **1. Jesus is 100% God. [Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?]**

- **John 10:27–30 (ESV)** 27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. 30 I and the Father are one."

#### **2. Jesus is 100% Man. [And the child grew and became strong... And when he was twelve years old... ]**

- 40 & 52 are inclusive
- **SEE ADDENDUM**
- **HE IS A UNITY - SPOKEN OF AS A UNIFIED PERSON, RELATED TO AS A UNIFIED PERSON. THE "DIVINE NATURE" AND THE "HUMAN NATURE" ARE NEVER SPOKEN OF ABSTRACTLY - "JESUS, IN HIS HUMAN NATURE WAS HUNGRY, TIRED, ETC.**

#### **3. Jesus experienced this life as we all do. [... the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem... And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress."]**

- **EVEN LOOKING AHEAD... JESUS TEMPTATION TO TURN STONES TO BREAD WAS A REAL TEMPTATION!!**

#### **4. Note Mary & Joseph as agents of Jesus obedience. [And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord... his parents**

went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover... And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them.]

- 39 is inclusio to 22
- **Ephesians 6:1 (ESV)** Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.
- **WLC Q. 126. What is the general scope of the fifth commandment?**
- A. The general scope of the fifth commandment is the performance of those duties which we mutually owe in our several relations, as inferiors, superiors, or equals.
- **WLC Q. 127. What is the honor that inferiors owe to their superiors?**
- A. The honor which inferiors owe to their superiors is, all due reverence in heart, word, and behavior; prayer and thanksgiving for them; imitation of their virtues and graces; willing obedience to their lawful commands and counsels; due submission to their corrections; fidelity to, defence and maintenance of their persons and authority, according to their several ranks, and the nature of their places; bearing with their infirmities, and covering them in love, that so they may be an honor to them and to their government.

## 5. Jesus experienced this life as none of us do. [...I must be in my Father's house...]

- **Hebrews 4:15 (ESV)** For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

## 6. Jesus is still all about His Father's House.

- **St. Cyprian** speaks to the same effect: "He cannot have God for his father, who has not the Church for his mother" (Treatise on Unity 6).
- **Haggai 2:7-9 (ESV)** 7 And I will shake all nations, so that the treasures of all nations shall come in, and I will fill this house with glory, says the Lord of hosts. 8 The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, declares the Lord of hosts. 9 The latter glory of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts. And in this place I will give peace, declares the Lord of hosts.' "
- **1 Peter 2:4-10 (ESV)** 4 As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, 5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." 7 So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," 8 and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. 9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.