



Today's Message

Date: January 12, 2020
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas
Title: *The One Who "Lays His Glory By"*

Text: Luke 2:39–52 (ESV)

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.

Introduction: Luke differ from the other gospel writers by including the only information about the childhood of Jesus. This cannot be “filler” in his telling of the gospel story. Close examination of Luke’s choices in Luke 2 reveals that he selected this story make a significant theological point.

I. *Inclusio*: Jesus grew just as we do. 40, 52

- A. He grew physically.
- B. He grew intellectually.
- C. He grew socially.
- D. He grew spiritually.

II. *Illustration*: Jesus’ first celebration of Passover. 41-50

- A. Joseph and Mary set a godly example. 41
- B. Jesus pursued understanding of the Law. 42
- C. Joseph and Mary lost Jesus in Jerusalem. 43-45
- D. Jesus was reunited with his parents at the temple. 46-50
 - 1. Those who heard Jesus were amazed.
 - 2. Mary scolded Jesus.
 - 3. Jesus replied, but his parents did not understand.
- E. Jesus returned to Nazareth to work for 18 years. 51

III. *Implications*:

- A. The eternal Son of God became a real man in Jesus.
- B. The eternal plan of God could only be accomplished by the man, Jesus.

Today’s take-home truth: The eternal Son of God “laid his glory by,” to become a man like us. Only then could he “seek and save the lost.”