

Scripture: Ex. 20:1-17 & Luke 2:21-24 & 39-52

Singing: 64:1-3 – 123:1 – 89:1-5 – 254:3, 4 – 425:4-5 – 431:4, 6

Jesus' Childhood & Manhood

I. He took the place of the guilty though He was blameless

A. Day 8 was a painful day for Jesus: *He was circumcised*

1. Circumcision was a *sign of God's covenant* (Gen. 17)
2. Circumcision was also *a message about our need* (Deut. 10:16)
 - a. we all face this need as we are *fallen – unclean – under a curse*

B. Baptism has same the messages: *God's covenant and our need*

1. The water in Baptism is both the picture of Jesus and His Spirit
2. The sign of Baptism is God's personal touch to His personal message

C. Jesus was not unclean and cursed: *why did He need to be circumcised?*

1. His circumcision is part of the Good News about His coming (Gal. 4:4-5)
2. Therefore His submission to circumcision is a message of hope for us

II. He was dedicated to the Lord from His youth (vs. 22-24)

A. God commanded every firstborn boy to be 'holy unto Lord (Ex. 13:2)

1. What does 'holy unto the Lord' mean?
2. For Jesus this presentation *confirmed what already took place*
 - a. He was devoted to His task from eternity: Prov. 8:22-24
 - b. He devoted Himself to this task also in eternity: Ps. 40:6-7

B. As God devoted Himself His covenant, are you devoting yourself to God?

III. He served the Lord from His youth

A. What Luke tells us about Jesus is enough to know *He is special* (vs. 40)

1. He grew up to be a young man with 'a strong/great spirit'
2. He grew in wisdom and the favor with God: *did He devote Himself to learning about God and Himself?* (vs. 46-47)

B. Is this picture your life, youth, and growing years?

1. Learning about God does not come naturally or easy (Prov. 2:4)
2. Be reminded about God's promises: Prov. 13:4 and 1:23

IV. He committed Himself to the Lord's will when He came to age

A. Luke 2:42-43 marks Jesus *becoming a son of the Law-ceremony*

1. He then *voluntarily* placed Himself under the 'yoke of the law'
2. This marked His confession of faith and commitment to God (vs. 51-52)
 - a. His walk of life proved Him sincere (vs. 51)
 - b. His walk of life earned Him respect (vs. 52)

B. In baptism, God commits Himself to you: *will you commit yourself to God?*

1. In every covenant there are two parts
2. As you mature, God expects your answer on this call:

I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them. (Deut. 30:19-20)

C. Be exercised with His promises and with your need

**I am the LORD Thy God,
which brought thee out of the land of Egypt:
Open thy mouth wide,
And I will fill it.**

**Oh, that My people had hearkened unto Me,
And Israel walked in my ways!**

Ps. 81:10, 13-14