

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