His Father's Business

Luke 2:41-42 – Visit to Jerusalem

- 13th birthday became a "Son of the law".
- Became responsible for keeping law.
- Usually taken to Jerusalem to celebrate passover. Trip was on foot. Was not frail weak boy- Lk 2:40.
- Trip went thru Samaria, close to Jacobs well.
- Passed between Mt. Gerizim (blessing) and Mt. Ebal (cursing).
- Valley of Ajalonwhere Joshua commanded sun and moon to stop.
- Ruins of Bethel where Jacob saw ladder.
- In Jerusalem would visit temple— Jesus would enter only as far as the court of women.
- Sign over inner court in Greek "Let no foreigners enter within the screen and enclosure around the holy place. Whosoever is taken in so doing will himself be the cause of the death that overtakes him."

Luke 2:43-52

- vs 45- we can imagine their anxiety. "what if something happened to him?"
- His life takes a dramatic turn as He prepares himself.
- Next 18 years were silent. Worked in the family carpenter shop.
- Studied word, increased in wisdom

Welcome to HOPIC

We are excited to finally be back in the NEWLY RENOVATED KEY MIDDLE SCHOOL, at 6402 Franconia Road, Springfield, Va. Pastor Harlan & Doris Stilwell, Sr., want to invite you and your family to come and join us as we exalt and worship God in His Holy Presence.

Our Vision

Our Goal and desire is the same as that of our Lord Jesus Christ, to fulfill God's end-time calling to enlarge the Kingdom of God, by reaching the multitudes with the gospel of Christ for all levels of our society. We are bringing glory and honor to the Father of our Lord Jesus by teaching and preparing God's people for works of service through the Word and Anointed Worship, through the manifested presence and revelation power of the Holy Spirit.



House of Praise International Church Where Christ Jesus is still Lord

Pastor Harlan & Doris Stilwell, Sr. 7406 Alban Station Court, B-206A

www.hopic.org

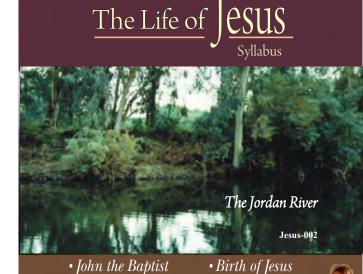
Phone: 703-866-4140 Email: pastor@hopic.org

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House of Praise International Church







Pastor Harlan & Doris Stilwell Snr.

• Boyhood of Jesus • His Father's Business

John the Baptist

Mal. 4:5-Luke 1:5-13 (cp Matt 3)

- Prophecy ended 400 years of silence.
- Came in power and spirit of Elijah (See Jesus remarks in Matt 11:11 & 17:12)
- Forerunner of Messiah (& cousin of Lord)
- Courageous, fearless, humble.

Zecharias and Elisabeth

- Godly people but had no child (vs 6,13).
- Josephus, Jewish historian, revealed 20,000 priests in Judea at that time. Some were "blind leaders of the blind."

Luke 1:13-17

- Angel was Gabriel.
- Child was to be raised as a Nazarite.
- Filled with Holy Ghost from birth.
- Forerunner.

Luke 1:18-25

- Zacharias tried to reason the miracle out.
- Wanted a sign and got it!
- Elisabeth conceived.

Luke 1:57-80

- John born.
- Zacharias' prophecy.
- "Prophet of the Highest".

Luke 3:1-6.

- Spent time in deserts. Possibly met the Essenes and used their scriptures for study.
- Time of great spiritual awakening and awareness in Israel.

Luke 3:7-17.

- Reproved and rebuked sin.
- Spared no one.
- Baptized in water as symbol of new life after repentance
- Spoke of the Messiah.

•

Luke 1:26-29

Birth of Jesus

- Mary was descendant of Royal line of David.
- Most likely very young girl in early teens.

Luke 1:30-38

- Difference in question of Zacharias verses Mary.
 "How could it be true" verses "How would it come to pass?"
- Verse 37 No word of God is void of power to fulfill itself.

Luke 1:39-45

- Went to her cousin Elisabeth.
- Elisabeth prophesied "mother of my Lord".
- Returned home possibly <u>after</u> birth of John.

Matthew 1:18-25

• God takes care of Mary by revealing His plan to Joseph. Isaiah 7:14.

Luke 2:1-8

- Augustus needed money to finance his kingdom.
- Actual birth probably in October.

Luke 2:8-16

- All of Israel was waiting for Messiah.
- Unto you is born....a Savior".

Matthew 2:1-10

- Star much like Pillar of Cloud and Pillar of Fire.
- Priestly class of Persia.
- Vs 5 & 6 Jews gave Herod info where Jesus was born.
- Vs 7 & 8 Herod wanted to destroy Jesus to preserve his kingdom.

Matthew 2:11-18.

- Gifts provided funds for later trip to Egypt.
- Rachel-Genesis 30:1.

Matthew 2:19-23.

- Archelaus put many Jews to death.
- Returned to Nazareth.

Little Is Said Or Known Of Boyhood Years

• Done for a reason-not to draw attention to

Boyhood of Jesus

Himself until time for his showing.

- Early life to be no different from other boys.
- Few realized who He was. Remember, <u>hundreds</u> of children died on his account.

Childhood Experiences

- Raised in quiet, sleepy town of Nazareth.
- Home made of stone with flat roof that was used as additional space. Used town well for water.
- Had own stone mill, used to grind grain.
 Also had large outdoor oven made of baked mud and clay.
- Jesus was very alert to the happenings around him—used many in his teachings.

Home of Jesus

- Joseph was a just man—worked hard to <u>support</u> <u>large family Mark 6:3</u>.
- Mary a woman of faith, knowledgeable in scriptures, humble. Lk. 2:51 said little about what she knew.
- Went to synagogue school at age 8.
- Teachers taught in Aramaic in the sand.
- Excelled in this area.
- Lk 4:16- Mary said he could always read.
- Celebrated all the feasts.