

## JAN 9<sup>TH</sup> 2005: THE FIRST WORDS: LUKE 2: 41-51

**If you have watched many current affairs**.....a kind of format they follow

They begin with the story.....Then to a couple of key or expert witnesses..

Then often....to the major person....victim.....final comments

**In luke 2..... a similar format used**

In v1-7 we are given a simple account of the birth

Then in 8-20 we meet a key witness....statement of the Angel of the Lord

Then in 21-39.....account from an expert witness....the prophet Simeon

**And finally in 41-52** a little more of the story.....with the child Jesus having final say

**And the whole chapter leaves you with the impression**

That this child Jesus is extra special.....and the world...one day....hear a lot more about

**What Jesus has to say himself**.....is of course.....of the utmost importance

They are the first reported words of Jesus in Luke's Gospel

Spoken by him...just 12years.....in front of the teachers...in Temple

**The events...led up to incident**....centred around family's annual trip.....Passover

Jesus as a 12.....at a partic import stage in growth Jewish manhood

At 13....would become :: **At 12 not quite there**.....but close enough to be treated diff

**He would receive special teaching at**.....He would no longer be compelled to travel with the women.....but could choose to travel....men.

**It was these two** aspects that led to this trip becoming....in the eyes of Mary and Joseph  
A near disaster.

**Jesus .....allowed** access to the teachers in the Temple.....saw them as a source of info about the God whom He knew in His heart was His Father

And the plans that God had set out in His Word for the times to come

**He had a thirst for that knowledge**....way beyond His human years  
 And He knew that it was right...that it should be satisfied  
 and He felt that His earthly parents....would know that too .....**SO He stayed**

**Mary and Joseph had not even considered**...that this initial contact TEACHERS.....  
 Would have such an impact on....

**They both just presumed**.....following the final opp to be at the Temple....  
 Jesus had utilised His new freedom to choose with whom He would travel ->  
 And had chosen the other

**So it wasn't until they** had travelled home for a whole day.....that they discovered..  
 And then after searching.....they returned to Jerusalem....where finally they found  
 Him.....impressing.....

**It is Mary who speaks.....and she rebukes him**

*....v48 Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously  
 searching for you.*

**In the Greek it is not the word for son**.....but the word teknon...child...mature

Its not quite as warm as Son...In fact I think the MESSAGE is closer ...has Mary saying  
*Young man, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been half  
 out of our minds looking for you*

**It's a translation.....also brings out the anxiety.....**

**It is at this point Jesus utters....his first recorded words**

He says to Mary and Joseph....v49.....

**The literal greek reads:-** *Why is it that you sought me? Did you not know that in the  
 things of the Father of me, it is necessary for me to be?*

The things of my Father, I now have to be involved in....  
 So it has been translated.....I must be about my Father's business.....**OR**

Taking the things.....to refer to...things taking place in the Temple...esp the teaching...  
Translated.....Be in my father's house

**There are two import things to note:→**

1. Mary talked about your Father.....But Jesus reveals an understanding of God as
2. Jesus emphasises a desire even then....to fulfil the mission given Him by.....

**So in this sole contact with the childhood of Jesus....**We discover that  
At 12 years old Jesus is aware of who He is.....and what He is on earth to do.

**But there is something else.....take from this account**

For what Jesus had Himself as a 12 year old.....He has since offered to mankind

**Through His death and** resurrection...He offers us a relationship with God.....as Father  
And a reason for living.....that will give us eternal satisfaction

**John 1:10-13.....**

*Celebrities are a big thing in our Society*

**This terrible disaster**.....Made all people aware of the frailty of our lives  
What Substantive thing can this life give us.....that could compare eternal security  
Of being a child of God

**1 John 3:1-2.....**

**Do you know today in your heart .....**that you are a child of God  
Who you are in God's sight.....Or have you yet to put your life,,,,,hands of Jesus

**And if you know ...then what does that mean to you today???**

**Then as well as Knowing who He was.....**Jesus also knew.....why He was here

**Sometimes a disaster**.....makes us focus anew on the question....Why are we here ?

**For the child of God the answer is clear**::::Eph 2:10 says

*For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

*This is the child's.....r prime reason for living*

**We cannot rejoice in our relationship with God**.....and put living for Him last

**We need to be available for Him first**.....Are we ????

**Phil 2:14-16**.....

Shining like stars .....Do we ????

Holding out the word of life.....Are we ?????

**Today we have here...an opportunity**....to revisit our position as children

**But in so doing**.....we need to say once again to the Lord.....Here I am wholly available