

## Understanding the Call

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Joseph Carty / General

Friend of Jesus / Luke 2:46-51

The time when Jesus first began to understand his calling was during his first experience at the passover as a twelve year old boy. As we contemplate this powerful story, perhaps God will help us discover a deeper understanding of our calling.

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Lost Child

store...

### **Luke 2:41-42 ESV**

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom.

- Jesus excited
  - see it all
  - “man now”

First time voting!

- Studied every aspect
  - Passover

- Unleavened Bread
- First Fruits

Desire of Ages (Chapter 8—The Passover Visit)

All the ceremonies of the feast were types of the work of Christ. The deliverance of Israel from Egypt was an object lesson of redemption, which the Passover was intended to keep in memory. The slain lamb, the unleavened bread, the sheaf of first fruits, represented the Saviour. - *Desire of Ages* p. 77

- Understood
  - deep meaning

Desire of Ages (Chapter 8—The Passover Visit)

For the first time the child Jesus looked upon the temple. He saw the white-robed priests performing their solemn ministry. He beheld the bleeding victim upon the altar of sacrifice. With the worshipers He bowed in prayer, while the cloud of incense ascended before God. He witnessed the impressive rites of the paschal service. Day by day He saw their meaning more clearly. Every act seemed to be bound up with His own life. New impulses were awakening within Him. Silent and absorbed, He seemed to be studying out a great problem. The mystery of His mission was opening to the Saviour. - *Desire of Ages* p. 78

- Message of services

- deep impact
  - couldn't get enough

**Luke 2:43 ESV**

And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it,

- They trusted Jesus
  - he would be there
    - when needed.
- Stayed and talked
  - to Priest and scribes
  -

**John 7:15 ESV**

The Jews therefore marveled, saying, "How is it that this man has learning, when he has never studied?"

## The Realization

**Luke 2:44 ESV**

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,

- Didn't realize Jesus
  - was not with them
  - until night...
- Flood of Emotions
  - fear
  - anger
  - disappointment
  - confusion
  - shame

Desire of Ages (Chapter 8—The Passover Visit)

They searched for Him throughout their company, but in vain. Shuddering they remembered how Herod had tried to destroy Him in His infancy. Dark forebodings filled their hearts. They bitterly reproached themselves. - *Desire of Ages* p. 80

# The Great Search

**Luke 2:45 ESV**

and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him.

- Looked for him everywhere
  - where would he be?
- If I was the son of God...
  - where would I be?

**Luke 2:45 ESV**

and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him.

- Searched all over City
  - thought came to mind
    - He loved temple...

## The Q & A Time

**Luke 2:47 ESV**

And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

- Leaders were
  - impressed with
    - depth of knowledge
- Questions asked
  - far beyond child.
  - beyond scribe.
- Messiah = King
- Passover Lamb = Death
- [Isaiah 53](#)
  - Why suffering servant?

[Isaiah 53:5-10](#) (ESV)

But He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

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All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

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He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

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By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people?

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And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

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Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

- Scribes and Pharisees

- could not answer
- brilliant student

## The Discovery

### **Luke 2:46 ESV**

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.

- Found him.
- 3 days search
- imagine relief

Desire of Ages (Chapter 8—The Passover Visit)

The next day, as they mingled with the worshipers in the temple, a familiar voice arrested their attention. They could not mistake it; no other voice was like His, so serious and earnest, yet so full of melody. - *Desire of Ages* p. 81

- More Emotions



- Relief
  - Joy
  - Upset
  - Punishment
- 
- Flood of emotions
    - thankfulness
    -

**Luke 2:48 ESV**

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.”

## Childlike Reproof

**Luke 2:49 ESV**

And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?”

- Not an attack

- at parents.

Desire of Ages (Chapter 8—The Passover Visit)

On His face was a light at which they wondered. Divinity was flashing through humanity. On finding Him in the temple, they had listened to what was passing between Him and the rabbis, and they were astonished at His questions and answers. His words started a train of thought that would never be forgotten. - *Desire of Ages p. 81*

- Simple words
  - of faithful child.

Story about being reprove by Ellie.

- Parents criticize
  - deserve to be criticized.

“It was difficult for them to realize that He was the Son of God...”

## My Father

**Luke 2:49 ESV**

And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?”

- Understood
  - relation to Father
  - calling
- Mary
  - believe to be Messiah
  - didn’t understand calling
- My Father
  - not Joseph.
- That day
  - **understood calling**
- Went home

- humble child
- obedient son
- 14-15 year
  - normal life
  - waiting for
    - appointed time.
- That Passover
  - changed that boy
    - for the rest of his life.
- Others distracted
  - social time
  - travel
  - gossip
  - politics
- Few left,

- completely changed
  - like Jesus.
- 
- Jesus alone

[Isaiah 53:2-3](#) (ESV)

For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him.

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He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

- Few understood him.
- loner.

## Three Days

- Jesus lost

- parents looking
  - 3 days...
- After death
  - lost to this world
    - 3 days...

## Finding Jesus

- Lost - 1 day
  - Seeking - 3 days

### **Desire of Ages Chapter 8—The Passover Visit**

By one day's neglect they lost the Saviour; but it cost them three days of anxious search to find Him. So with us; by idle talk, evilspeaking, or neglect of prayer, we may in one day lose the Saviour's presence, and it may take many days of sorrowful search to find Him, and regain the peace that we have lost.

- When we...
- absorbed in worldly things

- don't notice
  - Jesus absence
    - don't notice...
  
- How is your
  - devotional life...
  
- On Sabbath
  - vs.
    - During Week?
  
- Takes a day,
  - to lose Him.

**Desire of Ages Chapter 8—The Passover Visit**

It would be well for us to spend a thoughtful hour each day in contemplation of the life of Christ. We should take it point by point, and let the imagination grasp each scene, especially the closing ones.

# Friend of Jesus

- What do we
  - long to do?
  - look forward to?
  - wake up for?
- Spend time with Jesus?

## Appeal

### **Desire of Ages Chapter 8—The Passover Visit**

As we associate together, we may be a blessing to one another. If we are Christ's, our sweetest thoughts will be of Him. We shall love to talk of Him; and as we speak to one another of His love, our hearts will be softened by divine influences. Beholding the beauty of His character, we shall be "changed into the same image from glory to glory." 2 Corinthians 3:18.

- Today,



- this week,
- this month,
- let's be
- that person
  - draws others
    - thoughts to
      - Jesus...