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## The Young Jesus

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THE YOUNG JESUS

Denise  
② Kate + family  
likely my  
most likely  
③

INTRO: Introduce this lesson with a very "erudite" statement. (means: "full of wisdom.")

STATEMENT BY JOHN HALL: "If I had wished to raise up a race of statesmen, higher than politicians, animated, not by greed or selfishness or policy or party, I would simply familiarize the BOYS of this land with the sterling and enviable life-pattern of the young man of Galilee - Jesus Christ." Adapted.

③  
6PM  
"you can too!"

QUESTION: Just how much do we know about the Christ, as a young man? Meaning: Ages 12 - 30 yrs. By most, this is called the SILENT YEARS. Only a few spend any time on the subject in time and space in books. MY PROJECTION: We CAN know a great deal about Jesus, as a youth; more than most of us think we can.

May I have your undivided attention as we try!!!! Ploughing new ground!

I. CHRIST'S EDUCATION AND DISCIPLINE-PATTERN began with his birth-cry at Bethlehem.

Head left free!

A. New babies, in Jesus' day, were washed at birth, rubbed all-over with powdered-salt and then muffled in swaddling cloth (like our gauze). Note: no credence can be found that swaddling-cloth was RAGS. Jesus was NOT WRAPPED IN rags at birth. Most likely, Mary brought her swaddling-cloth from Nazareth in prep. for this blessed event. It was the universal birth-wrap.

PURPOSE OF THE WRAPPING? Psychological physiological! Daily the mother rewrapped the child and soothed him with oil. Then tightly wound him up again. The child was not usually bathed for 40 days outside of usual diaper changes. Apparently for protection from germs and disease. PSYCHOLOGICALLY: The arms were pressed against the body and tightly wrapped. The subtle lesson was: You can be controlled. You ARE under control. This had the effect of teaching the child that he must live in a "controlled environment." not: loose, free, mild + uninhibited.

LEARNED or question!

STATEMENT: Wouldn't America be a great place if we could teach all our young men that they MUST live lawfully in harmony with the laws of God? Nazareth: New role models! I have one!

II. WHAT WAS JESUS LIKE, WHEN HE WAS A LITTLE BOY?

A. First, He was very "human," born of a fleshly woman-Mary. (Father: Holy Spirit.) (His foster-father and earthly-guardian was Joseph of Nazareth-the Carpenter.)

1. \*POEM says it well? "LIKE OTHER BOYS."

B. Second, Jesus lived in a poor-peasant-family. 1st of at least <sup>6 or</sup> seven children. (James, Joses, Simon & Judas and the girls. Matt. 13:55-56.) Maybe more sisters than 3 <sup>2 or</sup> the village of Nazareth. or strucco!

Lived a frugal and austere life in a one-room house in Nazareth, made of brick. (People lived in cities, towns and villages. C & T had walls. Villages none.)

Home: had little furniture. Dirt floor or brick. Most sat on the floor. Had a table. Bushel basket. Lampstand. Lamp. Animal: water-skins and 3m. wine-skins. A broom. Grain mill. (Wheat-corn etc.) Open door. Open window/s. No screens. No glass.-(Available, but too expensive.) Bedrolls.

GIRLS usually did not go to school out of the home. Domestic. BOYS taught mems. by mother until age 5. Then...taught commandments, Jewish-prayers, and memorized numbers and learned the Hebrew alphabet.

At age 6: attended synagogue school. learned morals, ethics & obedience.

At 10 : started studies in the traditional Jewish law-Talmud - the commentary on the law.

At 15 yrs: <sup>Jesus</sup> Studied serious Theology (study of God) in the Mishnah - the traditions of the Elders. STUDIED esp. Leviticus, Deut. as well as Gen. & Exodus, & Numbers.

At 12: Jewish boys took their BAR MITZVAH - meant they were entering manhood and were responsible to Know (learn) and exercise rel.-responsibility to man; and discharge their religious-duty to God.

NOTE: It is suggested that Christ's family at Nazareth probably had a copy of the OLD LAW for Him to study from. Reason: He knew so much of the Law and quoted it so freely often.

Note: Luke 2:40. Christ's first 12 years are described. Before Jer. visit.

Luke 2:51-52. Christ's next 18 years. AFTER JER. VISIT. This was a great learning period in numerous ways.

EXAMPLE: Every Jewish father who did not teach his son a trade was accused of teaching him to be a THIEF!

1. Along with the study of the law, Jesus learned the CARPENTRY TRADE.
2. Carpenters were vital-craftsmen in the life of the people in Jesus' day:

WHAT JESUS LEARNED TO MAKE: Tables, benches, chairs, canes (for defence of stray dogs), yokes, door frames, window frames, stools, broom-handles, cradles for babies, dough-boards, wash-boards and wood-floors for those could afford such.

3. The TOOLS Jesus learned to use: (See Isa. 44:13-14.) Rulers. Line. Levels. Compass, planes AND ALWAYS the Saw, Hammer, Chisels and Awls. etc.

WHAT'S THE OLD ADAGE??? "All work and no play makes Jack a DULL boy." Jesus not a dull boy.

QUESTION: Why details of Christ's boyhood/home-life and life-style omitted from Bible? ANS: BECAUSE: 1. Such did not relate to the great SPIRITUAL STORY of his life. 2. All such is easily found in contemporary-literature of His time. Study what other little boys did and you will find out what Jesus did - most likely !!!

4. What outlets and diversions would Jesus have had? Recreation-Entertainment?  
ANS: Plenty- Hiking, jumping, climbing, racing, swimming, throwing, wrestling, boxing, hide & seek, fishing, sight-seeing, folk-dancing in the market place, playing church, funeralizing, mule-riding, goat-chasing etc.etc. on and on. (racing)

CONCLUSION: Jesus learned much through HUMAN EXPERIENCES. Heb. 5:8-9. Jesus was wholly DIVINE, but took upon Himself the NATURE of flesh so that He could LEARN our side (human side) of life. SO.....He GREW in WISDOM -PHYSICAL HEIGHT - and FAVOR in Heaven and on earth. This is our goal for all our CHRISTIAN young men today !!! Our boys. Our young men.

CONCLUSION II: Jesus lived a full, interesting and meaningful life while here on earth. Just like CHRISTIANS do! Now.

III. AGAIN ! WHAT WAS JESUS LIKE? Gospels clearly paint His Spiritual life. HISTORY & LITERATURE offer some semblance of a description of His physical and psychological IMAGE. A DESCRIPTION OF CHRIST.

CLOSE: God offers this Jesus to the world as the ransom for our souls: John 3:16. All the world is invited. Mark 16:15-16. It isn't easy, but it is possible !!!  
Matt. 16:24-27.

## LIKE OTHER BOYS

He was a boy like other boys,  
And played and sported with the rest;  
He had His troubles and His toys,  
And strove for mastery with the best.

He was a very boy, and had  
His little faults—like other boys;  
But he was always gay and glad,  
And eager in His small employments.

*Temple - age 12!  
- like other boys.*

With all the rest He went to school,  
But gave His lessons more concern,  
And school to Him was never dull;  
He had so keen a wish to learn.

He loved all birds and beasts and flowers  
And in the hills spent happy days  
Lying unseen in cunning bowers  
Where He could watch their curious ways.

He was great-hearted, tender, true,  
And brave as any boy could be,  
And very gentle, for He knew  
That Love is God's own Chivalry.

He was a boy—like you—and you—  
As full of jokes, as full of fun,  
But always He was bravely true,  
And did no wrong to anyone.

And one thing I am sure about—

He never acted bad or mean,  
But kept himself, within, without,

As God had made Him, sweet and clean.<sup>2</sup>

*—John Oxenham*

\* A DESCRIPTION OF CHRIST

(Ant. I, page 977) written to the Roman Senate in Rome by the president of Judea, Publius Lentulus.

↓ Christian

"There lives a man of singular character, whose name is Jesus Christ, in Judea.

The barbarians esteem Him as a prophet, but His own followers adore Him as the immediate offspring of the immortal God.

He is endowed with such unparalleled virtue as to call the dead from their graves, and to heal every kind of disease with a WORD or TOUCH.

This person is tall and elegantly shaped; His aspect is amiable and reverent; His hair flows into those beautiful shades which no united color can match, falling into graceful curves below His ears, agreeably couching upon His shoulders, and parting on His head like the head of a Nazarite.

His forehead is smooth and large; His cheeks without either spot, save that of a lovely red; His nose is smooth and formed with exquisit symmetry; His beard is thick and of a color suitable to the color of His head....

He rebukes with majesty; commands with mildness and invites with the most tender and persuasive language. His whole address, in word or deed, being elegantly graceful and characteristic of so exalted a being.

No man ever saw Him laugh, but many have seen Him ~~weep~~ and so persuasive are His tears that the multitude cannot withhold tears in sympathy with His. CRV

He is very temperate, modest and wise, and in short, whatever this phenomenon may turn out, in the end, He seems at present from His excellent bearing and Divine perfection, in every way SURPASSING the children of men."

THE SWORD AND THE TROWEL.