

THE LOST JESUS

Lk 2:42-46

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Most have lost something at one time or another
- B. Value determines how hard we search or how determined we are to find it - a penny or a dollar
- C. Text records Jesus being lost from his parents and it is possible for people to lose Jesus the Christ today for the same reasons he was lost on this occasion.
- D. Notice with me three reasons why Jesus was lost on this occasion. And notice that Jesus was not lost to himself, but to others: to those concerned about him

DISCUSSION:

I. LOST BECAUSE OF NEGLIGENCE

- A. Lost to parents: those who should not have lost him
 - 1. Not because of wickedness or wrongdoing
 - 2. Not because they could not know where he was
 - 3. Not because of a lack of love, but because they were negligent.
- B. Neglect has always been a problem with men - God warns about it Psa 119:4; 2Chr 29:11; Deut 6:12
- C. Neglect one of first sins in the church Acts 6:1
- D. Parents neglect to warn and teach children Eph 6:1,4
- E. The Lord's people, who should be the last to lose him, do so because of neglect.
- F. Neglect can cause one to lose their soul Heb 2:3

II. LOST BECAUSE OF SUPPOSITION

- A. Jesus' parents supposed him to be in the company
- B. Supposition often leads people astray (Illustrate)
 - 1. Take wrong road supposing it to be right
 - 2. People killed with supposed "unloaded" guns
 - 3. Police officer supposed man in her apartment
- C. Supposition is frequently found in religion
 - 1. Got Paul in trouble in Jerusalem Acts 21:28,29
 - 2. Church members often rely on supposition results are division, partyism, and strife Jhn 17:20,21; 1Cor 1:10-18; 3:1-9
 - 3. Many today suppose any way is right if one is honest and sincere: not so 1Jhn 1:9,10
- D. Jesus lost to many members because they suppose they are pleasing him while they grow very little and do very little in his service 2Pet 3:18; 1Cor 15:58

III. LOST BECAUSE OF LOOKING IN WRONG PLACE

- A. Sought him among kinfolk and acquaintances
- B. They did not find him till they went back to where they had lost him.

- C. Many today are still looking for Christ among their kinfolk and acquaintances Lk 13:24
 - 1. Must go where Jesus is, not where we think he is
 - 2. Jesus is found in the word of God; in fact, He is the Word Jhn 20:30,31; 1:1-4,14
- D. Jesus tells us He can be found and where to look for Him Jhn 5:39
 - 1. Scriptures make us perfect 2Tim 3:16,17
 - 2. Power to save in the Gospel Rom 1:16
 - 3. We can't see Jesus literally, but we must accept Him by faith Heb 11:6; Jhn 8:24

CONCLUSION:

- A. To find something lost must first realize it is lost. Jesus' parents went day's journey not knowing son was lost
- B. You may have been negligent to obey the Gospel, or you may have become negligent in working for the Lord; if so then Jesus is lost to you.
- C. You may have supposed that you obeyed the Gospel, but you may not have complied with the scriptures or you may suppose that the Lord is pleased with you but not if you are not working and growing as you should be. If either of these are the case with you then Jesus is lost to you
- D. If you now realize that Jesus is lost to you, will you look in the right place Matt 7:7; Rom 1:16,17