

9 AD – JESUS APPEARS IN THE TEMPLE

Scripture says: ‘**And when he was twelve years, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.**’ (Luke 2:42). All the modern translations say ‘**twelve years old**’ – but the Scripture does not say that – it says: ‘**twelve years**’. Our view is Jesus was ‘**twelve years**’ in the Holy Land after returning from Egypt. That means Jesus returned from Egypt when he was five years old.

A child of 12 would not be given audience with teachers. But a youth of 16 years was counted as a ‘man of the testimony’ and had the privilege of debating adults. Our timing makes sense.

Just as God put the rainbow in the sky – the appearance of Jesus in the Temple was a sign to Israel of a new eternal covenant. Zechariah said ‘**Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion! For I am coming and I will dwell in your midst**’ says the LORD... **Then you will know the LORD of Hosts sent me to you... Be silent all flesh before the LORD for He is aroused from His holy habitation**’.¹ What is the ‘holy habitation’ of the LORD? Is that not his Temple? Who is coming? Jesus!

The holy angels were watching with great interest. Would Jesus display the wisdom of Solomon? Would ‘**the vine bud? the grape blossom? the pomegranate bloom?**’ Jesus did not disappoint – his wisdom was astonishing to everyone who heard him.

Year

9

Anno Domini:

Jesus tarries in the Temple courts for three days. All who heard him were astonished by his answers to the teachers. Joseph and Mary sought him anxiously but did not find him. Jesus said ‘did you not expect me to be in my Father’s house?’

Verse

9

Isa. 1 v 9

Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah.

Chapter

9

Gen 9

God blessed Noah and set the rainbow as the sign of an eternal covenant. A new command ‘whoever sheds man’s blood - his blood shall be shed.’ Noah got drunk and cursed Canaan.

Jesus

16

Songs 7:12

Let us get up early and go to the vineyards. Let us see if the vine has budded, the grape blossoms are open, and the pomegranates in bloom. There I will give you my love.

Number

9

Meaning

JUDGMENT

¹ Zech. 2:10-13