JESUS GOES TO THE TEMPLE

VBS Adult Bible Study -- July 2017

Alfred Street Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. Cynthia Turner, Instructor

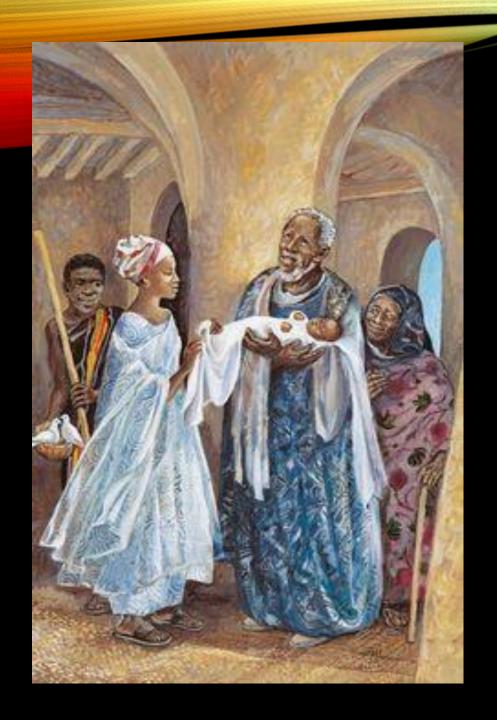
POWERPOINT: DAYSPRINGCOMMUNITYCHURCH.ORG/PRESENTATIONS

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SIMEON AND ANNA'S VERIFICATION

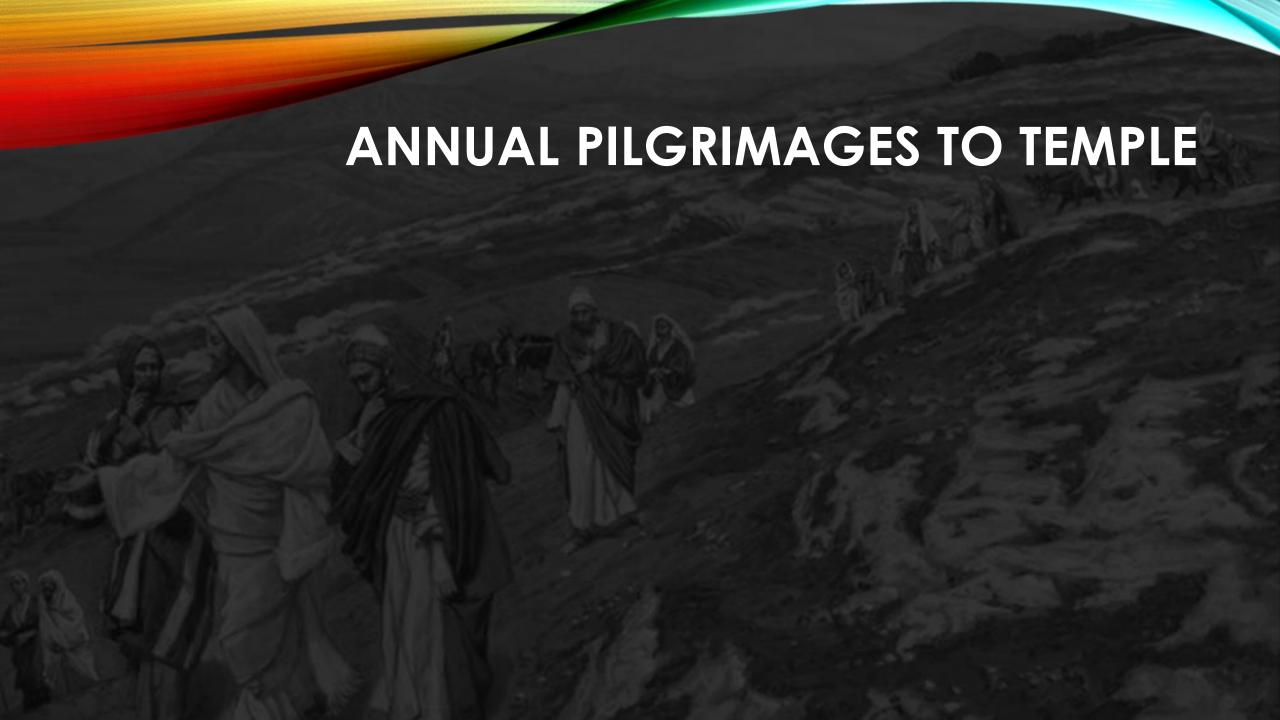




TEMPLE LIFE (Infancy)

The First Presentation in the Jerusalem Temple

- Every firstborn belonged to the Lord
- Parents had to pay 5 shekels to priest
- Mother must present herself at the temple for purification



ANNUAL PILGRIMAGES TO TEMPLE

- As was required (at least 3x year for major festivals) Deut. 16:16
- Jesus was no stranger to the pilgrimage journey
- At 12, first time he joined Joseph and participated in feast like other men

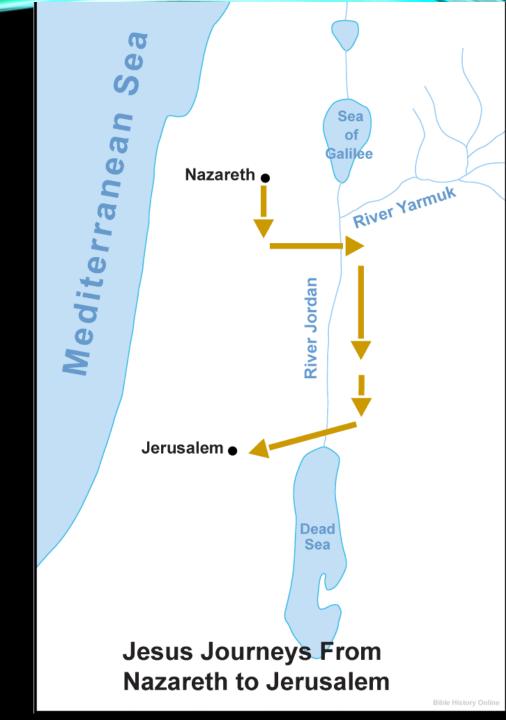
JESUS' OTHER TEMPLE INTERACTIONS

- John 2: Drove moneychangers out of "His Father's House"
- John 3: Private talk with religious leader Nicodemus
 - -- ("For God so loved the world...") (16)
- John 5: Attends feast and heals man by pool of Bethesda
- John 7: In Galilee
 - -- Secret meeting in the temple ("How does he know these things?")
 - Conversation/teaching with Jewish leaders ("If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink")

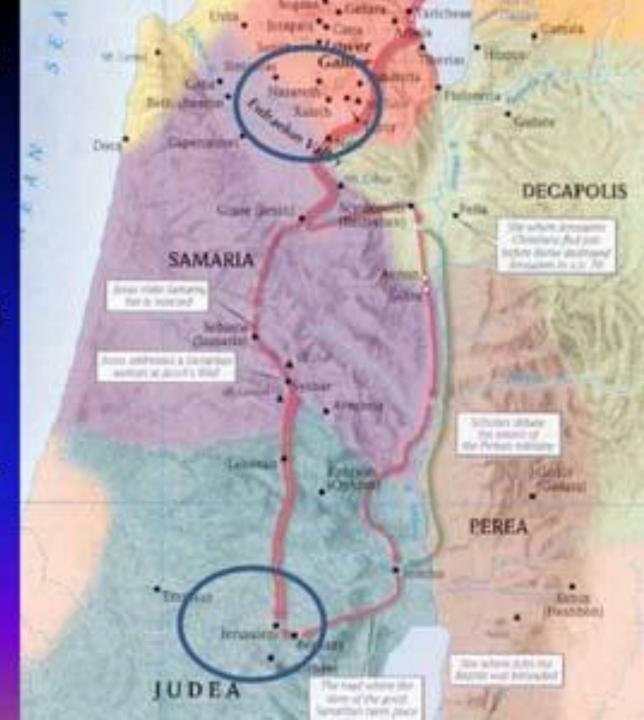
JESUS' OTHER TEMPLE INTERACTIONS

- John 8
 - -- Rescues woman taken in adultery
 - Claims to be light of the world (12)
 - -- Teaches the truth will set you free (32)
 - -- Claims eternality (58) ("Before Abraham, I was.")
- John 9: Heals man born blind
- John 10: Claims to be Good Shepherd and the Door
- -- "I and the Father are one." (30)

PILGRIMAGE JOURNEY ROUTE TO THE TEMPLE



From Jerusalem to Nazareth through Samaria, the shortest route. 140 kilometers (85 miles). Flavius Josephus, first century Jewish historian, says the **Galileans usually** took this route on their trips to and from Jerusalem.



LUKE 2

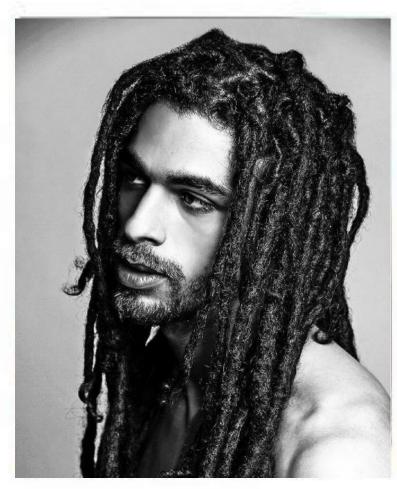
•43 and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, 44 but supposing him to be in the company they went a day's journey, and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquainfances;

LUKE 2

•45 and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking him.

AMBER ALERT

Jesus of Nazareth



Child

Missing: 3 days

Age: 12

Sex: Male

Eyes: Brown

Hair: Like wool, Black

From: Nazareth

Last Seen: Jerusalem

Parents: Joseph and Mary

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

 Did Jesus remain behind on purpose or that he was so engrossed in the teaching/learning he just forgot?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

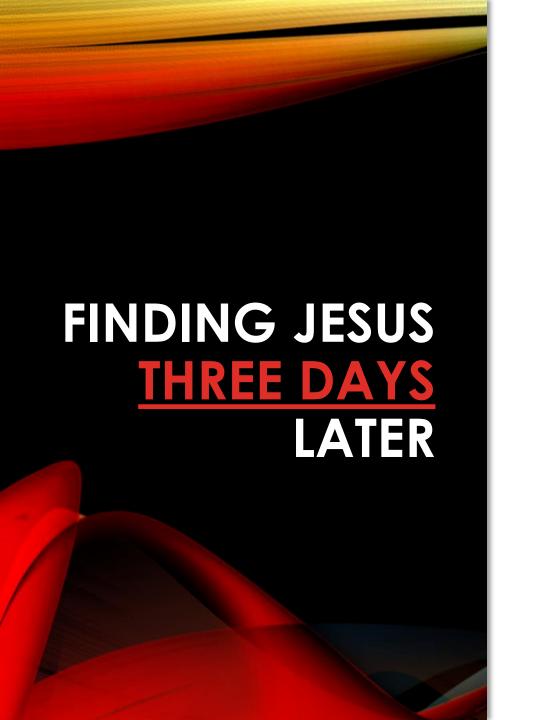
•How do you think Mary/Joseph felt when when they realized Jesus was missing?

LUKE 2

•46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; ⁴⁷ and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

FINDING JESUS THREE DAYS LATER

•Scripturally speaking, what else happened with Jesus after three days or three times?



3 years

Jesus' earthly ministry

3 times

Tempted in wilderness

3 times

Prediction of Peter's denial

3 times

Prayed in Gethsemane

3 days

• Time in the tomb

WHEN GOD DELAYS

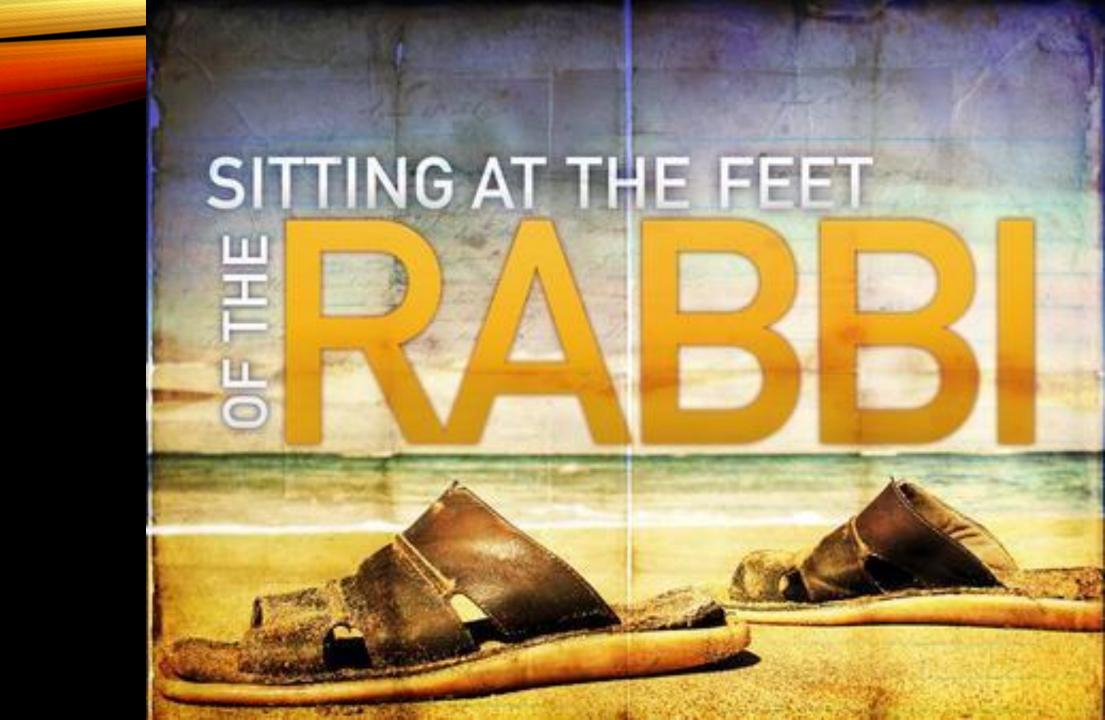
- •Some processes take time.
- •God is still at work.
- •God is where God needs to be.
- Delays strengthen faith.

WHEN GOD DELAYS

...Even though you are temporarily harassed by all kinds of trials and temptations. This is no accident-it happens to prove your faith, which is infinitely more valuable than gold. 1 Peter 1:6-7

LUKE 2

•46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; ⁴⁷ and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.



JESUS GREW UP UNDER JEWISH TRADITION

"May you follow your Master so closely that you are covered in the dust of his feet."

SEVERAL WAYS TO GROW

- In Physicality/Stature
 12 years old, chronological
- In Wisdom
 Fear of God (awe, amazement, love, respect)
- In Knowledge/Understanding
 Leaders were impressed by his understanding
- In Sociability
 Treat people with kindness, respect, friendliness

LUKE 2

•48 And when they 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 looking for you anxiously."

LUKE 2

•49 And he said to them, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"

LUKE 2:41-52

•Questions for Group Discussion



Why did they not know where he was?



Why did it take Joseph & Mary so long to notice that Jesus was missing?



Have you ever left church without Jesus?



How long did it take you to notice He was missing from your life?



When you noticed he was missing, what places did you go searching before you "returned" to the church?



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