

**(NEW TESTAMENT)**

**IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE**

**Mary and Joseph, observant Jews, traveled to the temple each year  
Their devotion to God, an example to their family, was made abundantly clear  
From Nazareth to Jerusalem, a 2 week journey, in travel time alone  
As members of a caravan, reciting the psalms, their walk was joyful in tone.**

**Jesus their son, now 12 years old, knew each mile of the trip by heart  
For the feast of the Passover, in all its importance, to him was explained from the start  
Although for most people, costly and long; a significant trip to take  
For adult Jewish males, from 20 miles around; a required journey to make.**

**When Passover concluded, the caravan gathered, and back to Nazareth did head  
Thinking Jesus was with friends, to His parent's great horror, found their son missing instead  
With fear and trepidation they returned to Jerusalem, where in the temple He was found  
There with religious leaders, deep in discussion, was displaying great wisdom profound.**

**Mary expressed to Jesus, her obvious concern, when He they finally did find  
"In My Father's house is where I should be," Jesus quickly responded in kind  
Let us, like Jesus, seek Divine favor, by developing a relationship with God  
Growing in wisdom that can only be learned by walking on gospel sod.**



**(“Jesus In The Temple” painted by Doris Cox)**

**Luke 2: 49**

**“Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?”**