

("JESUS IN THE TEMPLE AT AGE 12" donated by Rev and Mrs. E. P. Krleen from Salemsborg Lutheran Parish, Lindsborg, KS)

Luke 2: 46-47

After three days they found Him in the temple courts sitting among the teachers listening to them, and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at His understanding and His answers.

JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

The greatest rabbis gathered in the temple at Passover time of year

Anxious to hear various truths discussed, many Jewish men would appear

At the age of twelve, Jesus of Nazareth, in the temple with them did dwell

Displaying wisdom, asking many questions and offering information as well.

The coming Messiah, a popular topic, was a subject Jesus wanted to hear

Absorbed in discussion, was totally oblivious, His departure for Nazareth was near

After the Feast, the caravan departed, leaving Jesus in the city behind

Frantically searching, His parents were relieved, when their Son in the temple did find.

Discovering Him safe, Mary scolded her boy, not realizing He, too, was God's Son But Christ's reply showed His own awareness that His mission on earth had begun That He must be in His Father's house, showed His connection to God as unique Knowing this at birth, Mary and Joseph, still did not know what to think.

Isaiah had prophesied, from the stump of Jessie would come a spiritual shoot

And 'twas from these roots, a Branch much greater was to bear God's righteous fruit

All those hearing Him speak to his parents witnessed David's promise come true

For the earliest signs of Christ's divine nature in His own words had shone through.