

zen bowl. So quiet, simple and humble was his outward life. Think of his home compared with ours of to-day. Is there not a lesson for us here? No books, pictures, music, games, or any worldly treasures adorned his home. Jesus did not even have a Bible to call his own, yet was there ever a happier, brighter boy than Jesus was? No! Why? Because he was a godly boy. He loved God with all his heart, strength and mind, striving always to please Him and do His holy will. When Jesus was five years old he learnt a portion of the Law every day, and when he was twelve he was regarded as "grown up"; he must go to the Feast of the Passover at Jerusalem and on his return begin to learn a trade. Jewish laws and customs were very precise. Fathers and mothers counted the training of their children a very sacred thing. Two elements of Jesus' home life were continually emphasized, these being religious instruction on the parents' part and implicit obedience on the children's part. Retiring, arising, eating and drinking, all were by rules and observance, so that the thought of God and duty was always kept in the minds of the children. Now when Jesus was twelve years of age he went with his parents to the Feast of the Passover at Jerusalem. Abbot and others think that this was his first visit there. How he must have enjoyed it, for he loved nature, and then he was interested in God's work and loved to talk about it. This would lead us to think that he spent most of his time in the Temple, where endless ceremonies were being performed, and it also being the place of all devout Jews. Now, after the days of the feast were fulfilled, as they return, Jesus taries behind in the Temple. Joseph and Mary knew not of this. They, supposing he was among the company, had gone a day's journey before they realized that he was missing. Then they seek for him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances but find him not. What grief and sorrow it must have brought them to know

that such a child was lost. They now return to Jerusalem, and there follows a long, tedious search. An ancient city without street numbers or directories, with a million pilgrims packed in an area less than one-quarter of the size of New York City, would present a great many difficulties; then, too, Joseph and Marv had failed to understand Jesus, and would not look for him in the right place. On Sabbaths and feast-days the doctors and teachers of the Mosaic Law were to come out upon the terrace of the Temple and there teach. During this time the most popular instructions and the most critical questions would be given. It was here mingling with these people, hearing and asking them questions that they found Jesus. When he was asked why he had done so he answers them, "How is it that ye sought me; wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" But they could not understand this; why he should be among the scribes for the Messiah was not to be a scribe. We should not be so astonished because they did not understand it, for neither could we understand if we had not the wonderful life, death and resurrection of our Lord to help us. Jesus came down from the Temple with his parents to the little country home and was subject unto them. How truly obedient he must have been, for his heart would have prompted him to remain in the Temple. What an example he set for the young. Although conscious in some degree of the mission that awaited him, he ever revered and obeyed his earthly parents. Farrar says of him: "The boy Christ of the Gospels is simple and sweet, obedient and humble; he is occupied solely with the quiet duties of his home and his age; he loves all, and all love the pure and gracious and noble child. Already he knows God as his father, and the favor of God falls on him softly as the morning sunlight. Unseen, save in the beauty of heaven, the Spirit of God descendeth like a dove, and rested from infancy