

was as other children, and He lived as other babes, with all the weaknesses that accrue to the infant life.

Professor Huxley in the *Agnostic Annual Herald* for March 2, 1910, says regarding conception: "As for virgin pro-creation, it is not only clearly imaginable but modern biology recognizes it as an everyday occurrence among some groups of animals."

We are conscious that some ridicule the idea that Christ represented in life was once a babe, that He was troubled with the croup and the whooping cough, and the measles, and all that; but we think there is no holier picture painted than the pure and holy woman holding in her haste and loving arms a child, the fruit of love. Some one has said that the man who would throw discredit upon Jesus because He was once a baby throws a shadow across his own mother that endured much to give him a name and place among humanity. I see wisdom in God sending Jesus to this world in the weak and helpless form of an infant child. It teaches me the lesson, that I, though weak, may become strong; that I, though ignorant, may become wise; that I, though a child of earth, by obedience to law may become an heir of heaven and joint heir with Jesus Christ, a ruler and a judge, not only of the world, but of angels; for is it not written: "Know ye not that the saints shall judge angels?"

A Real Boy.

We now present to you Jesus as a boy; a real, live boy. I want to try to bring Him close to you to-night. While I am conscious that the history is almost silent upon Christ's life as a lad, yet we have some few points that give us an idea of His boyhood days. They are found in the chapter already cited for your consideration. The story says that when Jesus was about twelve years of age, He was taken with His parents to Jerusalem while they worshiped according to the custom of the time, and after the religious ceremonies had concluded, they went back to their village home; and while journeying thither, after three days had glided by, they missed Him, and the mother's heart began to throb with anxiety for the child who was absent, and all along the white caravan rang the cry, "A child lost. Have you seen my Jesus? Light blue eyes and light curly hair, about twelve years of age." But He was not to be found until they reached the temple, and O, what a wonderful revelation burst upon them as they gazed upon that meagre form, surrounded with all the lawyers and the doctors in that wonderful temple, hearing and asking questions.

There is a thought that we want to reach right here. Jesus made interrogation honorable. He asked questions. He had to learn; He grew, not only in stature, but in wisdom and knowledge. That is all the way we have to do, friends. All that you know some one has told you; either in earth or heaven you have received the information that you are in possession of; either by revelations of God contained in the books or given by the Spirit, or else through the instrumentality called man. You all have had to ask questions, and the man who thinks he knows it all, doesn't know enough to know that he doesn't know anything about it. Jesus asked questions.

But when they would remonstrate with Him because of His seeming negligence of the family, here comes the statement that reflects the biography of Christ's life: "Wist ye not that I must be about My Father's business?" O wonderful child! At twelve years of age that boy had acquired an education that called for the surrender of all His powers to His heavenly Father. He had learned to lavish His first, best, and truest love upon His heavenly Father at that early date. O! what a wonderful lesson here! Why was it? "O," says one, "because He was so peculiarly environed by the power of God." Let me tell you, the scriptures say that