

Was Jesus Disobedient?

By John A. Bonin

Luke 2:41-53 describes an event when Jesus was twelve years old. He and His parents had been to Jerusalem for the Passover. On their return trip His parents (thinking previously that He was with relatives) noticed that He was not with their group. Obviously concerned they returned to the temple in Jerusalem to find Him there - three days later, sitting among the teachers, asking them questions. His parents asked Him why He had treated them like this?

This may raise the question, "Was Jesus disobedient to his parents?"

To think that He was disobedient shows a foundational misunderstanding about Christ and Scripture. However, this question is easily answered by asking ourselves five questions. I asked these questions to a friend who was previously under the impression that Christ had been disobedient to His parents. Here are the questions, and their answers:

1. Is the Bible the inerrant Word of God?
She answered "yes."
2. If it is the inerrant Word of God, can the Bible contradict itself?
She answered, "No." I said, "That's right. It cannot at one place say something and in another place say something directly opposed."
3. Does the Bible say in Hebrews 4:15 that Jesus never sinned?
She answered, "I think so." I responded, "It does say that (and in other places as well), but we can turn there now and confirm it, if you want." She agreed. We resolved that question.
4. I asked her, "Is disobedience to parents a sin?"
She answered, "Yes." I agreed.
5. If disobedience to parents is a sin, and Hebrews 4:15 says Jesus never sinned, then could Jesus have been disobedient to his parents?
She answered, "Since you put it that way I guess He could not have been disobedient."

For other interesting points about Scripture, read the article "[What Color Are Your Glasses.](#)"

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