

36 And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity;

37 And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day.

38 And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

39 And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth.

40 And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

41 Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover.

42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.

43 And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it.

*Anna, as a prophetess, instructed others concerning him: She spoke of him to all them that believed the Messiah would come, and with him looked for redemption in Jerusalem. Redemption was the thing wanted, waited for, and wished for; redemption in Jerusalem, for thence the word of the Lord was to go forth, Some there were in Jerusalem that looked for redemption; yet but a few, for Anna, it should seem, had acquaintance with all them...*

*M. Henry*

# The Gospel of **LUKE**

Lesson 7

Chapter Two - Verses 36-52

## Prophetess Anna

Chapter 2, Verses 36-39 - A special lady speaks about a special child.

1. Anna the prophetess, was, like Simeon, part of a small group of **faithful** Israelites that believed in the coming Messiah.
2. Anna the prophetess was God's **mouthpiece**. She spoke for God by proclaiming his truth.
3. Anna the prophetess was married for **seven** years, then widowed for **eighty-four** years.
4. Anna the prophetess was **faithful** in her attendance at the temple.
5. Anna the prophetess **worshipped** God, night and day, by fasting and praying.
6. Anna the prophetess showed up at the very time Simeon was **praying** over the baby Jesus.
7. Anna the prophetess immediately began to **praise** God.
8. Anna the prophetess then **spoke** about Jesus to the faithful ones in Jerusalem who were expecting redemption.
9. After Joseph and Mary finished everything required by God in the Law they **returned** to their home town.



Anna the prophetess never lost **hope** after so many years. She never **forsook** her belief, but held fast until the end.



Anna the prophetess never grew **bitter** in the face of sorrow. She remained a widow out of the conviction that her life **belonged** to God.

## Father's Business

Chapter 2, Verses 40-52 - Mary and Joseph cannot find the young Jesus.

1. As a child, Jesus grew **strong** in body.
2. As a child, Jesus grew **wise** in spirit.
3. As a child, the **grace** (power) of God was with Jesus.
4. When Jesus was **twelve** years old, His family made their annual trip to **Jerusalem** for the Passover.
5. When the Passover feast was finished, Mary and Joseph headed back **home**, but Jesus **stayed** in Jerusalem.

# Father's Business

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Chapter 2, Verses 40-52 - Mary and Joseph cannot find the young Jesus.

1. Mary and Joseph traveled back home in a large **caravan** and they assumed that Jesus was in another part of the caravan with friends or relatives.
2. After a days journey, Mary and Joseph realized Jesus was missing and the began to **look** for him.
3. Mary and Joseph went back to Jerusalem to find **Jesus**.
4. After three days, the distraught parents found Jesus in the **Temple**.
5. Jesus was in the Temple sitting with the **scholars**, listening to them and asking them questions.
6. Everyone who heard the young Jesus speak, was **surprised** at how much he knew and at the answers he gave.
7. When Mary and Joseph saw Jesus, they were **upset**.
8. Mary scolded the young Jesus for making her so **worried**.
9. Jesus tells Mary and Joseph that they should have known that He would be in His Father's **house**, dealing with the things of His Father.
10. Mary and Joseph did not understand what Jesus was **telling** them.
11. Jesus went back to Nazareth with Mary and Joseph, and lived **obediently** with them.
12. Mary **held** these things dearly, deep within herself.
13. Jesus matured, growing up in both body and spirit, blessed by both God and **people**.



When Jesus went to the Temple, He jumped at the opportunity to learn all he could and perhaps teach all he could. Here we see Jesus' **hunger** for biblical knowledge and understanding.



The first recorded words of Jesus, shows us that He was fully **aware** of His identity as the Son of God.



In the last verse in our Scripture, we have the bottom line in all of this: "And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and men." In the new life in Christ you and I find favor with God and man. If you find favor only with God or only with man, you miss something. The new being in Christ lives in a new **dimension**. All of life is triangular. - L. Olgivie



The Bible does not record any events of the next **18** years of Jesus' life, but Jesus undoubtedly was learning and maturing. As the oldest in a large family, he undoubtedly assisted Joseph in his carpentry work. Joseph may have died during this time, leaving Jesus to provide for the family. - LASB

44 But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance.

45 And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him.

46 And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.

47 And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.

48 And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.

49 And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?

50 And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.

51 And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

*Whereas other children show that the corruption of nature is in them, and the tares of sin grow up with the wheat of reason, he made it appear that nothing but the grace of God was upon him (the wheat sprang up without tares), and that, whereas other children are by nature children of wrath, he was greatly beloved, and high in the favour of God; that God loved him, and cherished him, and took a particular care of him.*

*M. Henry*