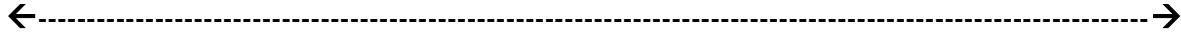


Thursday School
October 15, 2020

**The Moral Perfection
Of Christ**

**The Pre-existence
Of Christ**



**The Incarnation
Of Christ**

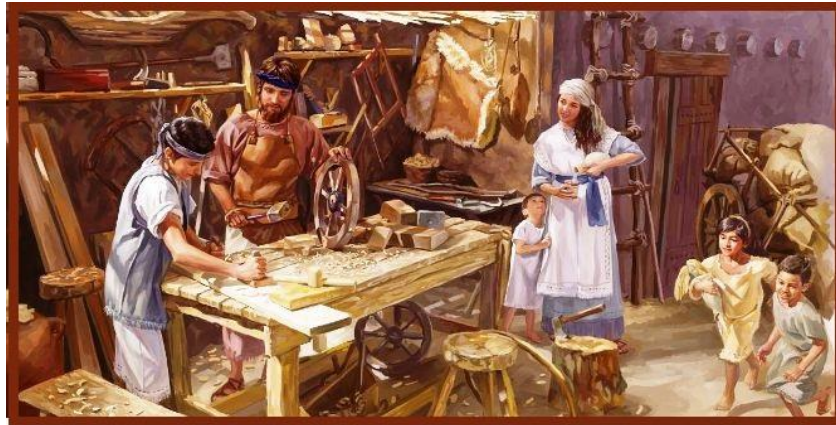
**The Childhood
Of Christ**

**The Youth
Of Christ**

**The Earthly Occupation
Of Christ**

← The Silent Years →

The Earthly Occupation of Christ



"Is not this the Carpenter?" Mark 6:3

"Is not this the carpenter's son?" Matthew 13:55

**"Of 18 years of Christ's life we know absolutely nothing except what is contained in the words, 'The carpenter'" (Mark 6:3).
What a title for the Lord of Glory!**

Oswald Sanders highlights 3 facts from our Lord's choice and pursuit of His work:

I. He Exemplified the Nobility of Labor

A. Working with His Hands

- 1. The Son of God thought nothing of working in the carpenter's shop sawing, using a plane, or using a hammer.**
- 2. He worked with His hands, He was a carpenter, a working man who earned His living with His hands.**
- 3. Manual labor, working long and tedious hours.**

B. If it was not beneath the Son of God to work with His hand, then surely it is not beneath any of His children.

- 1. "Jesus sanctified work, hard work, manual work, grunt work, mundane work, routine work done to the glory of God."**
- 2. "He has imparted to a life of toil both dignity and nobility."**

3. **Genesis 2:15, Adam was assigned by God in the garden of Eden to work and keep it.**
4. **Work predates the Fall; it is beautiful thing done for the glory of God.**

II. He Exhibited Perfect Workmanship

A. "He doeth ALL things well"

1. **Our Lord's work as well as His standards were nothing less than perfect.**
2. **In all things, it can be said of Him, "He doeth all things well."**

B. Our LORD always worked.

1. **Before the carpenter shop→ Proverbs 8:29-30→in creation.**
2. **Always working with the Father→John 5:17**
3. **In the 'silent years' from 12-30, He worked in the carpenter's shop**

C. "When He was among men, He made ploughs, and yokes and other farm implements." Justin Martyr, who lived shortly after the death of John the apostle.

1. **In His ministry, Jesus employed the yoke and the plough to illustrate His sermons.**

III. He Extracted Physical Strength for Future Service

A. Present Labor Produces Future Resource

1. **Our Lord's 3 years of public ministry was one of unremitting strain physically, emotionally, and spiritually, which climaxed in the cross.**
2. **Only a physically perfect constitution could have supported on-going activity and emotional force.**
3. **On one occasion, Mark 5:30, "He perceived that virtue had gone out of Him," we are given an indication of the cost at which all His ministry was carried out.**
4. **The physical effort alone was remarkable:**
 - a. **His recorded journeys during the 3 years→and there is no reason to believe that all His journeys are included→covered at least 2,500 miles travelled on foot.**
 - b. **He was usually thronged with people, and always teaching, preaching, and healing.**

B. Twelve hours a day spent in the sawpit in the Carpenter's shop in the seclusion of Nazareth→was but a preparation for the demands of His public ministry.

1. **The silent years He recognized as part of His Father's preparation.**
2. **"They were invaluable in building up the physical and emotional reserves, which He would in the coming years, heavily overdraw and stagger under the weight of His own cross."**
3. **These considerations bring our Lord very near to us.**
4. **Although we may not be able to emulate Him in His gracious ministry, it is open to us to follow Him in a life of faithful though hidden work.**