The Divine Nature

Third. They say: "The Divine nature in Jesus was dominated by the human during His earthly life, and, therefore, it is unreasonable to believe His teachings to be infallible." They call attention to Luke 2:52, where it is said: "And Jesus advanced in wisdom and stature" (R. V.); "which," they say, "proves conclusively that the Divine nature in Him was subjected to the human; that He did not always possess infinite wisdom." As touching His physical body, we know that it did "advance" (grow) as the bodies of other boys. Identified with His human body was, doubtless, a human mind, susceptible of development, and, as body and mind grew, He became wiser, without doubt, humanly speaking.

That His humanity did again and again manifest itself we have abundant evidence. But, He never taught as a man. His words clearly prove this, "Never man so spake." God said of Him, "The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord" (Isa. II: I, 2); and "In Whom are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge hidden" (Col. 2: 3). It is therefore not astonishing that the "Doctors" (Teachers) "That heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers" (Luke 2:47), when He was but twelve years old.

They also call attention to what He said when His disciples asked Him, "Tell us when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of Thy coming, and of the end of the world?" His reply, in part, was, "But of that day and hour knoweth no one, not even the angels of heaven, neither the Son, but the Father only" (Matt. 24: 36).

Let it here be noted, however, that many authorities, some ancient, omit "Neither the Son," but, if these words really belong there, He simply said, as the Divine Teacher, that Jesus the man, humanly speaking, did not know; for as touching His Divinity He said, at another time, "I and the Father are one," therefore, as Deity, He did know.

But these objections against the testimony of Jesus cannot stand, nor those against the testimony of the Apostles, for they wrote by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and their testimony, therefore, was infallible.

(The Highest Critics vs The Higher Critics by L. W. Munhall, New York: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1892, ebook, 10-11, Text Modified)