45—B2. ST. LUKE. 309   
   
 50 And ‘they understood not the saying which he spake !h.z. 4:   
 unto them. 51 And he went down with them, and came to   
   
 Nazareth, and was subject unto them: \*éu¢ his mother   
 ¥kept all these sayings in her heart. 52 19,   
 ‘increased in > wisdom and stature, and in favour Jesus 11 yr, 1.98   
 God and man.   
 ® read, and.   
 » or it may be, wisdom as well as age: see note.   
   
 exclude the wider sense, which embraces but in what way, or by what one great   
 all places employments of my Father's. revelation, all these were to be   
 The employment in which he was found, gathered in one, did not yet appear,   
 learning the of God, would natural, was doubtless manifested to her after-   
 be one of these. they understood not wards: see Acts i. 14; ii. 52.)   
 Both Joseph and His mother knew in The Greek word rendered stature means   
 some sense, Who He was: but were not not only that (as in ch. xix. but age   
 repared to hear so direct an appeal to (see Matt. vi. 27, where the word is the   
 Bod as His Father: tanderstood not the same, and note), which comprehends the   
 deeper sense of these wonderful words. other. During these eighteen mys.   
 Still (ver. they appear to haye awa- terious years we may, by the of what   
 kened in the of His mother a remem- is here revealed, view the holy Child ad-   
 brance of “ shall be called the of vancing onward to that fulness wisdom   
 God,” ch. i. 85. And probably, as Stier and divine approval which was indicated   
 remarks, the unfolding His childhood at His Baptism, by “in thee I am well   
 been so gradual and natural, that even Pleased.” We are apt to forget, it   
 they had not been forcibly reminded by was during this time that much of the   
 any strong individual of that whic! great work of the second Adam was done,   
 He was, and which now shewed iteelf. The growing up through infancy, child-   
 It is a remarkable instance of the hood, youth, manhood, from grace to   
 blindness the rationalistic grace, Yotinces to holiness, subjection,   
 to the richness and depth of Scripture self-denial, love, without polluting   
 narrative, that they hold understood touch of sin,—this it was which, con-   
 not to be altogether inconceivable, as summated by the three years of active   
 coming after the announcement to ministry, the Passion, and by the   
 Mary. Can they suppose, she sunder- constituted “the obedience of one man,”   
 stood that announcement itself? The by which many were made righteous. We   
 right interpretation they understood not must fully appreciate the words of this   
 the deeper sense see xviii. verse, in order to rightly of Christ.   
 51.] The high consciousness which had He had emptied Himself of His glory:   
 manifested itself ver. 49 did iuter- His infancy and childhood were no mere   
 fere with His self-humiliation, render , but the Divine Personality was   
 Him independent of His parents. This in Him carried through these states of   
 voluntary subjection showed iteelf weakness and inexperience, and gathered   
 in working at his reputed father’s round itself the ordinary accessions   
 see Mark vi. 2 note. From this experiences of the sons of men. All the   
 time we have #0 more mention of Joseph: time, the consciousness of his on   
 the next we hear is of His mother and earth was ripening; ‘the things heard of   
 brethren (John ii. 12): whence it is in- the Father’ (John xv. 15) were continu-   
 ferred that, between this time and the ally im) to Him; the Spirit, which   
 commencement of our Lord’s public life, was not given by measure to Him, was   
 Joseph died. and his mother kept .. .] abiding more and more upon Him; till   
 These words tend to confirm the common the day when He was fully ripe for his   
 belief that these chapters, or at official He might be   
 least. narrative, may have been de- offered to his own, to receive or reject   
 rived from the testimony of the mother Him,—and then the Spirit led up to   
 of the Lord herself. She kept them, as commence his conflict with the enemy.   
 in wonderful coincidence the remark- As yet, He was in favour with man also:   
 able circumstances of His birth, and its the world had not yet begun to hate   
 announcement, and His presentation in Him; buat we cannot tell how soon this