


# Age of Accountability



What do we  
mean by this  
phrase?

# Age of Accountability



# Age of Accountability

The age or point in life when God begins to hold young people accountable.



# Age of Accountability

This term suggests - there is a time (i.e., a certain age) when a child/young people are totally innocent before God.



# Age of Accountability

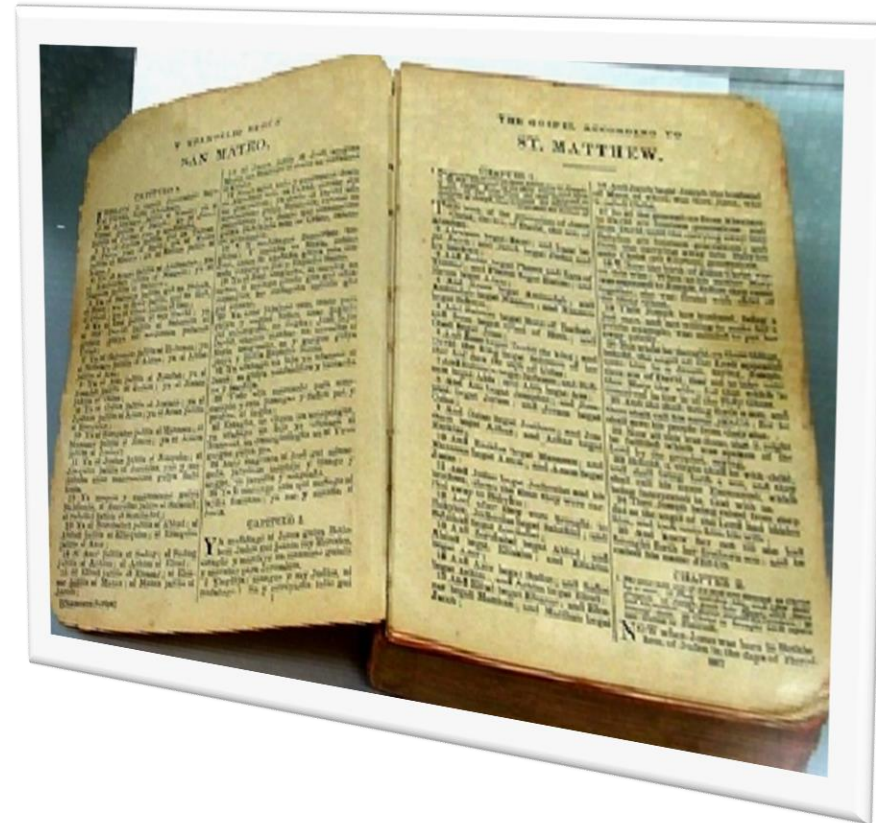
## I. Determining the age of accountability.

# Age of Accountability

<sup>41</sup> His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover.

<sup>42</sup> And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast.

Luke 2.41, 42



Jesus in the Temple at age-12.

Age of Accountability





# Age of Accountability

# Age-13 Bar Mitzvah



# Age of Accountability

## **bar mitz·vah**

[“son of the commandments”]

the religious initiation ceremony of a Jewish boy who has reached the age of 13 and is regarded as ready to observe religious precepts and eligible to take part in public worship.

# Girls age-12 Bat Mitzvah

## Age of Accountability



# Age of Accountability

## **bat mitz·vah**

["daughter of the commandments"]

a religious initiation ceremony for a Jewish girl aged twelve years and one day, regarded as the age of religious maturity. (Tied to the beginning of puberty.)

# Age of Accountability

## **Puberty (defined) - pu·ber·ty**

the time during which adolescents reach sexual maturity - capable of reproduction – brought on by sex hormones - maturing of the reproductive organs – (girls) ovaries; blood discharge (representing adjustment of the uterus) – (boys) (facial hair) the age at which puberty occurs often construed legally as 14 in boys and 12 in girls

# Age of Accountability

Bar/Bat Mitzvahs are at the age of 13 and 12 because **Jewish law states that is when they should be held.** At this age young Jews are seen as entering into adulthood and becoming members of the Jewish community, and they are then seen as responsible for their actions.



# Age of Accountability

Is age-20 the age of accountability?

Jewish military age (Numbers 1) –  
20-and under could enter Canaan.

# Age of Accountability

<sup>29</sup> The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, **from twenty years old and above.** <sup>30</sup> Except for **Caleb** the son of Jephunneh and **Joshua** the son of Nun, you shall by no means enter the land which I [swore I would make you dwell in.

Numbers 14.29, 30

A young child with dark hair and large eyes is looking upwards with a surprised expression. Their face and hands are covered in colorful paint splatters. The background is a light-colored wall with scattered paint spots. The text is overlaid on the image.

Age of Accountability  
As soon as they know right from wrong?

**CAUTION**





# Age of Accountability

Young people need to be able to trace the source of the ethic.



## Age of Accountability

Then - hopefully they will be persuaded by  
God's soul-saving powerful word to obey.

# Age of Accountability

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As the time is coming  
– parents should  
practice patience.

4/15/2023





# Age of Accountability

Begin to prepare your  
children for this day.



First and foremost...

We should probably remove this idiom “Age of Accountability” from our vocabulary.

# Age of Accountability