

## Luke 3

Luke ch 3 Begins PUBLIC MINISTRY of Jesus, Savior of World

Luke INTRODUCES JESUS thru his BETTER KNOWN Cousin JOHN

John was NATIONALLY Recognized PERSONALITY in ISRAEL

John BOLD & ODD: Desert Dweller, Part-VEGAN, wore 2<sup>nd</sup> Hand FURS

Ch 1 Births of John then Jesus / Ch 3 BEGIN Ministries, John then Jesus

### 1. The Way to God – *Repentance and Forgiveness*

a. Preaching God makes Self Known thru Word > Faith by Hearing

700 BC > Famine: "days are coming when I will send famine thru land, not a famine of food...but a famine of hearing the words of LORD. Men will stagger from sea to sea and wander from north to east, searching for the word of the LORD, but they will not find it" Amos 8.11,12

400 yrs since Last OT Prophet, Malachi: Sent from God > Living WORD

1<sup>st</sup> C Israel was Staggering: Oppressive Religion, Crushing Dictatorship

John Waiting for Call: 1.80 And the child grew and became strong in spirit; and he lived in the desert until he appeared publicly to Israel.

Ch 3: God calls John: v. 3 He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

John's PREACHING TEXT > Glorious Message of PROPHET ISAIAH

John DEFINED as VOICE v. 4 "A voice of one calling in the desert..."

v. 18 w many other words John exhorted people, preached the good news

John's preaching was EVANGELICAL > EVANGEL = GOOD NEWS

Jesus is SAVIOR who offers FORGIVENESS from God's JUDGMENT

Act of Repentance NOT FORGIVE > Position to RECEIVE Forgiveness

FORGIVENESS comes ONLY thru JESUS and His CROSS

b. Political ch 3: Prez Don Trump / S.State Marco Rubio / Def – Hegseth

AG Pam Bondi/ HHS RFK Jr. / Dir Intell: Tulsi...Blair preaching Kalahik

Luke FIXES Gospel in Time & Space: Real Historical Date ca. 27 AD

Historical Convergence: 7 Political & Religious LEADERS Luke Names

vs. 1,2 15<sup>th</sup> yr reign Tiberius Caesar—Pontius Pilate governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea & Traconitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas

Now Gospel IMPACTs Centers of POWER >> JERUSALEM & ROME

Everything we know about this impressive list of leaders testifies to their pride, violence, and self-indulgence... Philip Ryken

7 Men Highest Political & Religious Auth: John carried Higher Authority

LIGHT of God shines Brightly > Dark POLITICAL/Religious Moment

ALL 4 Gospels quote Isaiah 40 > Only Luke quotes this far from Isaiah...

v. 6 **all flesh shall see God's salvation** >> Jesus Savior of World

ALL FLESH: No one Untouchable, Gospel reaches Anyone & Everyone

Message > Radical Implications for ALL Society, WHOLE WORLD

v. 7 John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him...

v. 12 Tax collectors also came to be baptized > Foul, Despised, Corrupt

CLIMBED OUT OF PIT OF HELL to FIND the LIGHT OF HEAVEN

v. 14 "Soldiers asked" ... / Hated Muscle behind EVIL Politicians

vs. 19,20 John rebuked Herod the tetrarch // Bold, Fearless OT Prophet

John spoke to KING & COMMONER – TRUE to God and HIS WORD

1830's US Pres Andrew Jackson > Methodist Church, Pr Peter Cartwright

Before service Preacher Warned Not say anything OFFENSIVE to Prez

Began: "I understand Andrew Jackson is here. I have been warned to guard my remarks. Andrew Jackson will go to hell if he does not repent!"

After Jackson Thanked! If had regiment of men like U, I'd whip world!

c. Promised > WAY to GOD – FULFILLED His ETERNAL Plan

1) 30 Yrs Earlier Luke 1.16: ANGEL to Father Priest Zechariah "he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God ... "

Zech Prophesied: Luke 1.76-77 "you, child...prophet of the Most High; you will go before Lord to prepare his ways, give knowledge of salvation"

2) 700 Yrs Earlier Isaiah > ch 40 Theol Foundation for Luke's Gospel

Ancient World > Customary for Kings to Receive ROYAL WELCOME

Citizens must Prepare Good Road > Uganda moved Dirt from Pot Holes

Great KING is Coming > Way must be PREPARED

Repentance – Straighten out Rubble of our Lives – Path for God to Travel

vs. 4,5 “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, the rough places shall become level ways”

Mountains of Pride Broken DOWN / Valleys of Self-Pity Raised & Filled

Jesus the King > Finds ENTRY into any HEART that is SORRY for SIN

BAPTISM forces DECISION > *Will U REPENT or REJECT Him?*

John’s preaching was ESCHATOLOGICAL > ESCHATON = the END

Do something NOW > the House is ON FIRE! TURN or BURN!

d. Panic – God is COMING and you are NOT READY!

v. 7 “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ”

Moment of CRISIS – No time for LEISURE > Final Reckoning NOW!

John anticipates END of God’s SALVATION and JUDGMENT

vs. 16 “He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire”

Pentecostals > 2 Experiences – Deeper Life – Get H.S. AND get FIRE!

Context: FIRE = Final Judgment v. 9 “cut down and thrown into the fire”

v. 17 “he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

End is NOW > Already in Christ or Already under Condemnation

John 3.18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already...not believed in name of Son of God.

v. 8 do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father’

Some of you say My Grandma was Member of Kalahikiola!

Underlying Presumption – God Needs Us – He is Lost without US!

v. 8 “God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abe”

Whether from Rocks or People – His Kingdom will Surely ADVANCE

ASSAULT on the STATUS QUO – RADICAL Demand for CHANGE

NO Salvation thru Connections: Family, School, Youth Group, Church

Everyone Thot – ONLY Gentiles needed WASHING > JEWS GOOD!

NEVER before Baptized Jews – NEVER considered Necessary

SLITHERED from Responsibility > No CHANGE still are SNAKES!

Luke uses NOUN Repentance & VERB Repent: More Mt / Mk / John X's True Repentance BOTH > Outward Testimony & Inward Transformation WORLD: Take TIME think it Over – Have Fun, Family, Future Plans God will reveal WRATH against every Unrepentant SINNER One Day People never Ride in Car or Airplane w/out Safety of SEATBELT We Carelessly Hurtle thru Dangerous Life w No SECURITY in Christ

**e. Practice – NEED BOTH Good Preaching AND PRACTICE**

v. 8 Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. No Fruit > No Future w/ God Right Belief seen in Right Behavior – Walk your Talk – Wear your Words John NOT preaching Cheap Grace > Mere Outward Conformity & Rituals John was Pattern for Martin Luther – Indulgences NO Saving POWER Both preached need Get Right w God > Righteous will LIVE by FAITH EVERYBODY wants FORGIVENESS / FEW are willing to REPENT 1981 Ugandan Pastor Peterson Sozi in Open-Air Market in NAIROBI Raise Hand if want go Heaven / Raise willing to Turn from Sin, Follow X Repentance more than FEELING SORRY for What we HAVE DONE v. 11 "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none...food" 2 Tunics – Poor People > Still Hearts of Greed – We have Dozens v. 13 *Tax collectors*... "collect no more than you are authorized to do v. 14 *Soldiers* "Do not extort money...by threats or false accusation" These Examples have to do with MONEY and SOCIAL JUSTICE NOT told CHANGE JOBS >> CLEAN UP their JOBS – Shine LIGHT World needs SEE Real Life Examples: contra Central Asians > pastors

**f. Pays the Price vs. 19-20 Herod tetrarch...locked John up in prison.**

Luke NOT Chronological > John is Finished / FOCUS Now ON JESUS Seems UNFAIR > LOYAL Servant John has such LOUSY ENDING Suffering for Savior is HIGH Calling > SIGN you are REALLY HIS CROSS was TEMPORARY – CROWN of HONOR is ETERNAL

## 2. The One from God – *Son of Man, Son of God*

a. Heart of Message – John must DECREASE, Jesus must INCREASE

Message of ONE More Powerful – NOT Worthy to Untie HIS Sandals

v. 15,16 people were in expectation - questioning in their hearts @ John, whether he might be the X? 16 John: “I baptize you w water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, strap of sandals I am not worthy to untie”

Every service which a slave performs for his master shall a disciple do for his teacher *except the loosing of his sandal thong.* Rabbinic Saying

Get CHUMMY w MASTER’S FEET was TOO MUCH for Disciple

JOHN > I’m not even GOOD Enough to TOUCH Feet of MASTER Jesus

b. Heritage Luke Interrupts Story w BACKGROUND Information

v. 23 Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, **so it was thought**, of Joseph...

30 – Age Levitical Priest began Ministry – Age Man FULLY MATURE

LUKE > Genealogy follows Heavenly Voice – IDENTITY as Son of God

Luke goes ‘behind the scenes’ --- ‘So it was thot...son of JOSEPH’

PURPOSE > Affirm the LEGITIMACY of Jesus the MESSIAH

REAL MAN > NOT DEMIGOD like Greek & Roman MYTHOLOGY

75 Names: Most NEVER appear Anywhere in Bible: Real, Human Family

ADAM > Solidarity of Jesus w ALL Humanity – Savior of the WORLD

Jesus is MAN as God meant Man to Be – Perfect Image of God in Flesh

Jesus is 2<sup>nd</sup> Adam – LAST & FINAL ADAM > FULLY OBEYS Father

Matthew’s Genealogy > JEWISH Ancestry – Son of David, ABRAHAM

Matthew Begins w Genealogy > Bible transl in PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Began translation with Ch. 2 – LIST of NAMES Obscure, Waste of TIME

Completed 27 Chapters – LIMITED INTEREST of TRIBAL People

Gathered People to ask Local Word 4 ‘BEGAT’ > Finish Transl. Ch 1 MT

Great Surprise people asked “YOU MEAN these are REAL PEOPLE?”

THOUGHT – Gospel just WHITE MAN’S MAKE BELIEVE STORIES

## Genealogy >> REAL PEOPLE / TRUTH of Story > RESPONSE!

- c. Humility v21 When all people were being baptized, Jesus also baptized JOHN has PREPARED the Way > Now SPOTLIGHT is on JESUS
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Jesus must be Fully Prepared for His Mission of Salvation
  - Jesus STOOD in LINE w Sinners > Accepted Baptism of Repentance
  - He was numbered with the transgressors Isaiah 53.12
  - Jesus takes our RAGS & gives us His ROBE of RIGHTEOUSNESS

NOT YET Xtian Baptism: NAME Father, Son, Spirit > REPENTANCE  
Even tho JESUS had NO SINS to REPENT OF / Our Representative  
God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5.21

d. Holy Spirit vs. 21 “Jesus...baptized & was praying...heavens opened 22 Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove & voice from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased”

Jesus' Personal PENTECOST > Filled with SPIRIT for WORK of GOD  
Picture of TRIUNE GOD – Son in Water / Father in Heaven / Spirit Dove  
Separate in PERSONS – Working as ONE for SALVATION of WORLD  
Jesus Begins Ministry FILLED to FULLNESS of Blessing of SPIRIT  
v. 16 John: "I baptize you w water.....He'll baptize U w Holy Spirit & fire"

JOHN (or any man) could put PEOPLE in WATER  
ONLY JESUS can put the HOLY SPIRIT in PEOPLE  
JESUS Did that PENTECOST – Birth and BAPTISM of the Church  
Baptism of Holy Spirit > ALL Xtians / No H.S. = No Salvation

Baptism = UNION – Joined to Jesus by the Holy Spirit  
Thru His Connection > All that God has for us in X in Heavenly Realms  
Baptism 1st & Foremost Event, Not Experience – Occurred on Pentecost

Questions. v. 10 What should we do then? the crowd asked.

v. 12 Tax collectors: Teacher, they asked, what should we do?

v. 14 Then some soldiers asked him, "And what should we do?"

Thru Repentance & Forgiveness we RECEIVE Benefits of JESUS

Rightful Possession of EVERY BELIEVER is FOUND in CHRIST

If YOU are in JESUS > God says YOU are my BELOVED CHILD

“I am Well Pleased w YOU!” > REWARDED with Gift of Holy Spirit

Paradox of Gospel > One whose Feet we’re UNWORTHY to TOUCH

WASHES feet of Disciples >> Washes Church Completely w BLOOD

Message Preached Church BEGAN > PROMISE until He Comes AGAIN

"Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."     Acts 2.38,39

By Grace we’re offered GIFTS of REPENTANCE and FORGIVENESS

Come to GOD Humble & Honest > EMPTY: RETURN Home FULL

\*\*\*\*\*