

# Seeing **CHRIST** through the Eyes of Luke

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## **Luke 3:1-14 | The Ministry of John the Baptist | 6.20.21**

**Luke 3:1-2** Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, <sup>2</sup> while Annas and Caiaphas were high priests, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness.

“Tetrarch” = four people who ruled over a designated area by Roman authority.

Scripture is trustworthy in information and priceless in application!

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| 1. John's Mandate | Luke 3:2     |
| 2. John's Message | Luke 3:3-9   |
| 3. John's Method  | Luke 3:10-14 |

It is not the passages that are unclear that should alarm you; it is the ones that are perfectly clear (**Titus 2:11-15, 2 Timothy 4:1-5**).

### **John's Message**

**Luke 3:3** And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins,

**Repentance** means a change of mind. It consists of a change of mind regarding a person's view of God and His claims on their life. It is vain to say that we repent with our lips if we do not repent with our lives! We not only grieve how we lived (past), but we also change our minds on how we will live (present).

**Luke 3:4-6** as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, saying: “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight. <sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled And every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight And the rough ways smooth; <sup>6</sup>And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

- V6 | partial fulfillment... it will be fulfilled at Jesus' return!
- A sermon should prepare you to meet Jesus Christ!

### **John's Method**

- He addressed root issues.

**Luke 3:7-8a** “Then he said to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him, “Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance,

**Matthew 7:21-23** “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ <sup>23</sup> And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

Works done to obtain salvation offend GOD!

**Isaiah 64:6** *But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags*

Works done that affirm salvation glorify GOD!

**Matthew 5:16** *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.*

- He anticipated his audiences' thoughts.

**Luke 3:8b-9** *and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. <sup>9</sup> And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."*

No man will be saved from Abraham's blood in his veins; the one saved has the **blood of Christ applied to his soul!**

**Luke 3:10-14** *So the people asked him, saying, "What shall we do then?" <sup>11</sup> He answered and said to them, "He who has two tunics, let him give to him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise." <sup>12</sup> Then tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" <sup>13</sup> And he said to them, "Collect no more than what is appointed for you." <sup>14</sup> Likewise the soldiers asked him, saying, "And what shall we do?" So he said to them, "Do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely, and be content with your wages."*

**Matthew 13:8-23** *"Therefore hear the parable of the sower: <sup>19</sup> When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. <sup>20</sup> But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup> yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles. <sup>22</sup> Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. <sup>23</sup> But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."*

- A sermon can only say so much.
- A sermon is *not* to end when we walk out the door.
- We are responsible before God to review and apply the sermon.

**James 1:22-25** *But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. <sup>23</sup> For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; <sup>24</sup> for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. <sup>25</sup> But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.*

Re: **Matthew 7:24-27**