

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 04 Mar..... Luke 1:1-80.....A Special Baby – Rejoice
- 2) 11 Mar..... Luke 2:1-52.....A Unique Person – Praise God
- 3) 18 Mar..... Luke 3:1 – 4:30.....An Unexpected Messiah – Honor Him
- 4) 25 Mar..... Luke 4:31 – 6:11..... Christianity 101 – Accept Others
- 5) 01 Apr..... Luke 6:12 – 8:56..... Christianity 102 – Live to Benefit Others
- 6) 08 Apr..... Luke 24:13-35.....Be Confident of the Resurrection
- 7) 15 Apr..... Luke 9:1-50..... Christianity 103 – Meet Needs
- 8) 22 Apr..... Luke 9:51 – 13:21..... Christianity 104 – Be Good Neighbors
- 9) 29 Apr..... Luke 13:22 – 17:10..... Christianity 105 – Manage Money Well
- 10) 06 May..... Luke 17:11 – 19:27..... Christianity 106 – Learn to Pray
- 11) 13 May..... Luke 19:28 – 22:65.....He Voluntarily Suffered – Be Grateful
- 12) 20 May..... Luke 22:66 – 23:49.....He Offers Salvation – Believe
- 13) 27 May..... Luke 23:50 – 24:12,36-53..... He Lives Eternally – Carry On

**INTRODUCTION**

- Remember, the purpose of the Gospel of Luke was to convince Theophilus of the facts of his faith → Jesus was God in the flesh
- The life of Jesus was planned out before time began, and Luke gives us a few glimpses of what occurred behind the scenes and in Jesus' formative years

Passage	Comments
Luke 3:1-20	<p><b>Crying in the Wilderness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Luke accurately lists several historical figures (Herod &amp; his brother Philip, T. Ceasar, High Priests Annas and Caiaphas, and P. Pilate), their territories, and their joint reigns (TC's 15<sup>th</sup> yr), making Luke a credible historian on par with Josephus, Tacitus, and Eusebius</li> <li>• v3. Baptism of Forgiveness by JTB was temporary and prepared his listeners for the coming Messiah</li> <li>• vv10-14. "What should we do?" → Share, don't steal, be content – are all works indicative of a changed heart</li> <li>• vv16-17. Baptism of Forgiveness with the Holy Spirit and Fire by Christ was a permanent marking/sealing                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ The Fire is indicative of man's final judgment</li> <li>♦ ...and possibly indicative of the Tongues of Fire that alighted on the disciples on the day of Pentecost – a onetime occurrence .....Acts 2:1-4</li> <li>♦ Baptism of the Holy Spirit for each believer occurs at the moment of belief when they are saved, sealed, forgiven forever – a onetime occurrence ..... Eph 1:13</li> <li>♦ Baptism by water for each believer is a bold public testimony of what occurred internally for all eternity – another onetime occurrence (usually)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• vv19-20. JTB was jailed &amp; executed for telling an unbeliever his marriage was wrong. Did JTB lose his head needlessly, or should marriages be taken seriously?</li> </ul>
Baptism That for the Day	If Christ was courageous enough to hang naked on the cross in front of men, women & children then we should be courageous enough to get wet for Him. "If we are ashamed of Him He will be ashamed of us" ..... Luke 9:26
3:21-22	<p><b>The Baptism of Jesus</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since Jesus was sinless, why did He get baptized?</li> <li>• Again, water baptism is a very powerful testimony to the church and to the world of who we belong to                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Many Muslims and pagans who get baptized as a Christian lose their jobs, family, and even their lives</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
3:23-38	<p><b>The Genealogy of Jesus</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matthew lists Joseph's lineage through Solomon, making Jesus the legal heir to the throne of David</li> <li>• Luke apparently gives the lineage of Mary, making Jesus the physical heir to the throne of David through Nathan, one of David's other sons</li> </ul>
4:1-2	<p><b>40-Day Wilderness Fast To Kickoff His 3 Year Ministry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What's the significance of 40 days? Did he plan things?</li> <li>• How does refraining from food really empower us?</li> <li>• Consider Isaiah 58 for the elements of a godly fast</li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
Isaiah 58	<p><b>Fasting God's Way</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To win the battle against wickedness ..... Isaiah 58:6</li> <li>• To bring relief to those afflicted ..... v6</li> <li>• To relieve oppression ..... v6</li> <li>• To break every yoke/burden ..... v6</li> <li>• To share with the hungry ..... v7</li> <li>• To restore the homeless/poor ..... v7</li> <li>• To cover the naked ..... v7</li> <li>• To resolve personal issues ..... v7</li> </ul> <p><b>Results of a Godly Fast (1 Day of Atonement) ..... v5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hope is seen ..... v8</li> <li>• Health is restored ..... v8</li> <li>• Righteousness is restored ..... v8</li> <li>• God's glory is proclaimed ..... v8</li> <li>• Prayers are answered ..... v9</li> </ul>
4:3-13	<p><b>The Temptation of Jesus</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jesus did not perform any miracle to keep from sinning</li> <li>• His model to us is to know and live by God's word - "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you" ..... Psalm 119:11</li> <li>• Satan came at Jesus with 3 basic areas of human weakness, and Jesus responded back with Scripture                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ <b>Physical Pleasure (e.g, food).</b> There's nothing wrong with eating unless it's gluttonous, or put above a higher priority → to serve God</li> <li>♦ <b>Pride.</b> We all want to be exalted, but God comes first</li> <li>♦ <b>Prove Thyself.</b> God wants to be trusted, not tested to perform magic tricks – so let's not cheapen Him</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
4:14-30	<p><b>Rejection at Nazareth</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jesus, after his 40 day fast and "in the power of the Spirit" headed for his hometown, and He ticked 'em off</li> <li>• What does it mean to be "in the power of the Spirit"?                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Must first be in a state of righteousness before God</li> <li>♦ Must have an open prayer line with God</li> <li>♦ Must know God's will, God's word, God's direction</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v24. Why is no prophet accepted in his hometown?</li> <li>• vv28-30. What would drive His hometown people to want to kill Him by trying to push Him off the cliff edge?</li> </ul>

**CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS**

- We may not have the luxury to head off to the wilderness to fast 40 days, but we should make plans each year to give God at least 1 day to recommit and refocus ourselves to His service
- We should also make sure we are living righteously and not after the flesh, and empowered in the Spirit to accomplish God's will

**NEXT WEEK:**

**Luke 4-6.** Jesus begins to select His disciples and begins performing miracles to identify Him as the promised Messiah

