

Luke Part 1, Chapter 3
Who Is This Man Who Forgives
Sins?

Historical Setting

The year that John began to preach
Political and religious leaders in power

Tiberius Caesar, King of Rome

Pontius Pilate, Governor of Judea

Historical Setting

- Herod, Tetrarch of Galilee
- His brother Philip, Tetrarch of Ituraea and Trachonitis
- Lysanias, Tetrarch of Abilene

Why Mention Political Rulers?

Tetrarchs

- In the Roman empire
- The governor of one of four divisions of a country or province
- Title of king sometimes assigned to a tetrarch (King Herod)

Why Mention Political Rulers?

Iron grip over the nation of Israel

Subjugation

- Action of bringing someone or something under domination or control

Historical Setting

The year that John began to preach

Religious leaders in power

- High priests
- Annas and Caiaphas

Significance of two high priests?

Israel in disorder—religiously, politically

Historical Setting

Annas and Caiaphas

Held in high esteem in world's eyes

Wicked, unscrupulous in God's eyes

Therefore...

Historical Setting

When God wanted to speak to men

Bypassed palace, synagogue

Sent His message to John

Son of Zacharias

In the wilderness

Definitions

John preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins

Baptism: immersion, submersion

Immersion: deep mental involvement

Submersion: action of submerging or being submersed

Definitions

Repentance:

A change of mind, as it appears to one who repents, of a purpose he has formed or of something he has done

Josephus: abhor their errors;
determined to enter upon a better
course of life

John's Baptism

Was it enough?

“Make ready”

Israel was a wilderness

Arid, cheerless, no fruit for God

Had to undergo a moral change

Prepare hearts (not roads) to receive Him

Look forward

John's Baptism

Was it enough?

Men confessing their sins

Bound to spiritual reformation

Obtained pardon of their past sins

John's Baptism

Was it enough?

Valid Christian baptism

The only baptism the disciples received

Not recorded anywhere...

That they were rebaptized after Pentecost

Mk. 1:4; Jn. 1:35-40; **Lk. 7:29-30; Jn. 4:1;**
Mt. 28:19-20; Acts 2:1-4; Acts 9:18

John the Forerunner

Lk. 1:17

Forerunner

Spirit and power of Elijah

Disobedient—righteous attitude

“Make ready” for the Lord

Lk. 1:76-77

Knowledge of salvation

By forgiveness of sins

John the Forerunner

All flesh will see salvation of God

Offered to all men at First Advent

Some received Him

Partial fulfillment

Second Advent

Complete fulfillment

All Israel saved; Gentiles also

Repentance for Forgiveness of Sins

Vipers

Baptized to flee wrath

Pretenders/insincere

No hunger or thirst for righteousness

Message to those confessing sins

Repentance for Forgiveness of Sins

Repentance

Transformed life, fruits

Godly heritage

Doesn't make one godly

Stones [Gentiles] transformed

Physical seed rejected

Spiritual seed received

Repentance for Forgiveness of Sins

Repentance

Transformed life, fruits

Godly heritage

Doesn't make one godly

Stones [Gentiles] transformed

Physical seed rejected

Spiritual seed received

Repentance for Forgiveness of Sins

Figurative

Axe = Christ's coming

Test reality of man's repentance

No fruit = condemnation

Eternal hell

Repentance for Forgiveness of Sins

Practical application

Specific ways to prove sincerity

Love neighbors as themselves

Share clothing, food with poor

Tax collectors

Strictly honest in dealings

Notoriously crooked

Repentance for Forgiveness of Sins

Practical application

- Specific ways to prove sincerity
 - Love neighbors as themselves
 - Share clothing, food with poor
- Tax collectors
 - Strictly honest in dealings
 - Notoriously crooked

Repentance for Forgiveness of Sins

Practical application

- Soldiers

Avoid extortion, slander, discontent

Common in military

Not saved by doing

Outward evidence of transformed heart

Who are you John?

No momentary fame

Unfit to untie Jesus' sandals

Contrast

I baptize with water

He baptizes with Holy Spirit, fire

Contrasted Baptisms

John's baptism

Outward, physical

Jesus' baptism

Inward, spiritual

Contrasted Baptisms

Baptize whom with the Holy Spirit?

Believers

Will happen on Day of Pentecost

Baptize whom with fire?

Unbelievers—judgment [9]

Baptisms

Mixed multitude

John mentions baptism of fire and
baptism of spirit

Mt. 3:11; Lk. 3:16

Believers only

Omitted baptism of fire (Mk. 1:5, 8)

True believer—never experience baptism of fire

John's Ministry

Preached the gospel [2, 18]

Reprimanded Herod Antipas

Had Herodias, originally Herod Philip I's wife

Other wickedness

John imprisoned

Jesus Baptized

Baptized in Jordan River

About 30 years old

All three persons of Trinity present

Jesus [21], Holy Spirit [22a], Father [22b]

Jesus Baptized

Only Luke records Jesus' praying at baptism

Presents Jesus as the Son of Man

Dependent on God the Father

Prayer life of Jesus a theme in Luke

5:16; 6:12; 9:18, 28; 11:1; 22:32, 41, 44

Jesus Baptized

1 of 3 times when God spoke from heaven

In connection with His Son's ministry

- Verdict after 30 yrs: "well pleased"
- Peter suggested tabernacles on Mt. of Transfiguration
- Lk. 9:35
- Greeks came to Philip, desiring to see Jesus
 - Jn. 12:20-28