

Luke Lesson 2

Ice breaker question: How far can you go back on your “ancestors”? Have you ever done an ancestor test? Do you ever talk about “ those who came before you with your family?” Does it matter?

John the Baptist (JTB) is the last prophet (over 400 years of silence) and then Jesus comes. Isaiah 40:3-5 speaks of this last voice before Jesus comes. (before kings traveled, the roads were prepared and literally made level) His timing is perfect- Gal 4:4. John’s baptism looked forward to the coming Messiah. Our baptism looks back to the finished work of Christ. Wiersbe

Baptism was not new. Gentile converts were baptized. So why does John ask Jews to be baptized? They knew they were unclean and that if the King-Messiah- was coming, they were not ready. This act of purification was also a part of Jewish tradition. RC Sproul

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JTB was truly a humble man and strange! Image his clothing and diet and his boldness towards those who came to see him. He preached a true repentance that was not linked to their heritage as Jews. **How would you describe Repentance?**

“**Repentance** is not a work we do to earn salvation. No one can repent and come to God unless God pulls that person to Himself ([John 6:44](#)). Repentance is something God gives—it is only possible because of His grace ([Acts 5:31](#); [11:18](#)). No one can repent unless God grants repentance. All of salvation, including repentance and faith, is a result of God drawing us, opening our eyes, and changing our hearts. God’s longsuffering leads us to repentance ([2 Peter 3:9](#)), as does His kindness ([Romans 2:4](#)).

While repentance is not a work that earns salvation, **repentance unto salvation does result in works**. It is impossible to truly change your mind without that causing a change in action. In the Bible, repentance results in a change in behavior. That is why John the Baptist called people to “produce fruit in keeping with repentance” ([Matthew 3:8](#)). A person who has truly repented of his sin and exercised faith in Christ will give evidence of a changed life” ([2 Corinthians 5:17](#); [Galatians 5:19–23](#); [James 2:14–26](#)). <https://www.gotquestions.org/repentance.html> RC Sproul

Are the fruits that John gives the people to do if they are truly repentant different from what we read in the Epistles under Paul? Mark 12:30-31NLT **And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.’³¹ The second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.No other commandment is greater than these?**

*There is some discussion on who these soldiers were that were mentioned. Generally, the idea is that the temple and the High Priest had soldiers and these would be Jewish soldiers. (but some think they could have been Roman soldiers as well).

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John preaches boldly and talks about Jesus coming to baptize with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2) and with fire (Revelation 20:11-15.) Wiersbe

Luke gives us a heads up of what happens to John down the road. (kind of a spoil alert) See Matthew 14:1-12

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Jesus was 30 years old and so was John. This is usually when men would begin their priesthood. (Numbers 3:3,30 (David was 30 when he became KING 2 Sam.5:4 and Ezekial was 30 when he became a PROPHET Ezek. 1:1)

Jesus’ baptism:

There are several reasons why it was fitting for John to baptize Jesus at the beginning of Jesus’ public ministry. Jesus was about to embark on His great work, and it was appropriate that He be recognized publicly by His forerunner. John was the “voice crying in the wilderness” prophesied by Isaiah, calling people to repentance in preparation for their Messiah (Isaiah 40:3). By baptizing Him, John was declaring to all that here was the One they had been waiting for, the Son of God, the One he had predicted would baptize “with the Holy Spirit and fire” (Matthew 3:11).

Jesus’ baptism also showed that He identified with sinners. His baptism symbolized the sinners’ baptism into the righteousness of

Christ, dying with Him and rising free from sin and able to walk in the newness of life. His perfect righteousness would fulfill all the requirements of the Law for sinners who could never hope to do so on their own. When John hesitated to baptize the sinless Son of God, Jesus replied that it was proper to “fulfill all righteousness” (Matthew 3:15). By this He alluded to the righteousness that He provides to all who come to Him to exchange their sin for His righteousness (2 Corinthians 5:21).

In addition, Jesus’ coming to John showed His approval of John’s baptism, bearing witness to it, that it was from heaven and approved by God. This would be important in the future when others would begin to doubt John’s authority, particularly after his arrest by Herod (Matthew 14:3-11).

Perhaps most importantly, the occasion of the public baptism recorded for all future generations the perfect embodiment of the triune God revealed in glory from heaven. **The testimony directly from heaven of the Father’s pleasure with the Son and the descending of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus (Matthew 3:16-17) is a beautiful picture of the trinitarian nature of God. It also depicts the work of the Father, Son, and Spirit in the salvation of those Jesus came to save.** The Father loves the elect from before the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:4); He sends His Son to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10); and the Spirit convicts of sin (John 16:8) and draws the believer to the Father through the Son. All the glorious truth of the mercy of God through Jesus Christ is on display at His baptism. Wellum <https://www.gotquestions.org/Jesus-baptized.html>

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***Matthew and Luke seem to have different genealogies. There are many explanations...Generally it is considered that Luke used Mary’s lineage and Matthew used Joseph’s.**

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Temptation of Jesus Verses Jesus Used Deuteronomy 8:1-3, Deut. 6:13, Deut 6:16

Could Jesus have sinned? <https://www.gotquestions.org/could-Jesus-have-sinned.html>

Jesus knows what it is like to be tempted, but He does not know what it is like to sin. This does not prevent Him from assisting us. We are tempted with sins that are common to man ([1 Corinthians 10:13](#)). These sins generally can be boiled down to three different types: “the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life” ([1 John 2:16 NKJV](#)). Examine the temptation and sin of Eve, as well as the temptation of Jesus, and you will find that the temptations for each came from these three categories. Jesus was tempted in every way and in every area that we are, but remained perfectly holy. Although our corrupt natures will have the inner desire to participate in some sins, we have the ability, through Christ, to overcome sin because we are no longer slaves to sin but rather slaves of God ([Romans 6](#), especially verses 2 and 16-22). Wellum

See lesson 1... **Jesus did not sin** [1 John 3: 5](#) And you know that Jesus came to take away our sins, and there is no sin in him. [1 Peter 2:22](#) He never sinned nor ever deceived anyone.

Satan taking scripture out of context...be careful. <https://www.knowableword.com/2020/01/06/quoting-scripture-contrary-to-its-purpose-is-devilish/>

John MacArthur: Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit to be tempted. God is not the agent of temptation (James 1:13) but like Job, God uses satanic tempting to serve His sovereign purposes.

*Satan uses the word ‘If you are the Son of God... Satan knew who Christ was... “Since you are...” We see the tactics of the enemy in twisting the facts and speaking lies.

Andrew Bonar: Jesus came out of the wilderness a victor, but Satan did not give up. He watched for other opportunities to tempt the Savior away from the Father’s will. “Let us be as watchful after the victory as before the battle.”

Warren Wiersbe: We have at our disposal the same spiritual resources that Jesus used when He faced and defeated Satan: prayer (Luke 3:21–22), the Father’s love (Luke 3:22), the power of the Spirit (Luke 4:1), and the Word of God (“It is written”). Plus, we have in heaven the interceding Savior who has defeated the enemy completely. Satan tempts us to bring out the worst in us, but God can use these difficult experiences to put the best into us. Temptation is Satan’s weapon to defeat us, but it can become God’s tool to build us (see James 1:1–8, 13–17). Wiersbe



Mark 12:30-31

LOVE the LORD
your GOD with all
your heart, soul,
mind and strength.
LOVE your neighbor
as yourself.