

# The Gospel according to **LUKE**

*When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened. And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased."*  
Luke 3:21-22

Pray as you begin your study this week.

Read Luke 3.

Fast forward about 18 years. We have no record of Jesus' or John's lives up to this point. All we know is that John became strong in spirit and lived in the wilderness (Luke 1:80) and that Jesus subjected Himself to His parents, became strong in spirit, and grew in wisdom (Luke 2:40 & 52). This chapter's events are some of the few recorded in all four gospels until Jesus' last week.

Luke gives us another time marker so we can keep track of the events he records. Who is reigning during this time? Who were the high priests? vs. 1-2

What was John's message that God sent to him? vs. 3

Verses 4-6 contain the prophecy of Isaiah concerning the Messiah. The prophecy given is indicative of how a road is prepared for a coming ruler. But notice verse 6. What is the purpose of preparation?

Read the parallel accounts of this section of Luke in Matt. 3:1-6, Mark 1:2-6, and John 1:19-23.

Luke doesn't give an explanation of who he addresses in verse 7. Read Matt. 3:7 and John 1:24. Who do they say John is speaking to?

What does he tell them to do in verse 8?

John accuses them of putting their confidence in their father Abraham. What does he tell them God is able to do? What does that tell you about their confidence?

What is the mark of a true son of the true Father? vs. 9

What is John suggesting in verse 11?

Who comes next to be baptized? vs. 12

What does John tell them to do? vs. 13

What group approaches him next? What is John's response to them? vs. 14

What did the people begin to wonder? vs. 15

John said he baptizes with water in verse 16, but that another is coming. What does he say about Him? vs. 16-17 (Read also Matt. 3:11-12, Mark 1:1-8, and John 1:26-27.)

Jesus, before His ascension, used the phrase "baptized with the Holy Spirit" once in the books of Acts concerning a future event.

Write out Acts 1:5.

Jesus also spoke of the disciples receiving "power from on high." This was a promise of God the Father and is another reference to the "baptism with the Spirit."

Write out Luke 24:49.

Luke subtly inserts something about Herod the tetrarch. To gain a better understanding of this, read Matt. 14:1-12 and Mark 6:14-29. Before this event however, John was still baptizing.

John 3:22-36 includes an account not recorded by the other gospels. It contains John's discourse to his disciples about Jesus. Read it as well to round out your knowledge of this great man.

Our last encounter with John is at the baptism of Jesus. Again, Luke doesn't give all the details. Read Matt. 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, and John 1:29-34.

Complete the table below by recording the important, detailed events of the accounts from all 4 gospels. Align similar events across the table to see who records an event and who leaves out an event. Not every space will be used. I've done the first line for you. Tables/Graphs can be tricky. This is not a test, it's merely to show you the Harmony of the Gospels.

| MATTHEW 3:13-17                                        | MARK 1:9-11                                                                         | LUKE 3:21-22 | JOHN 1:29-34                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Jesus came to the Jordan to be baptized by John</i> | <i>Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan.</i> |              | <i>The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"</i> |
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In this next section, Luke records a genealogy from Jesus' "supposed" father, Joseph. In actuality, this is Mary's lineage. (Matt. as we saw previously records the genealogy of Jesus through Joseph's lineage from Abraham.) Luke records for us Mary's genealogy all the way back to Adam, and essentially God Himself.

Look through Luke's genealogy and find David in the lineage. Which son of David does Mary descend from?

Read the names. Which ones stand out to you?

The same with Matthew...find David. Which son does Joseph descend from?

Read the names. Which ones stand out to you?