

## Luke 3 – 22 January 2023

### “The Fabric Of Our Relationship”

#### Introduction

\*Luke began w/ the angelic announcements, then births of John the Baptist and our Lord Jesus

\*Chap 2 told the accounts during Jesus’ adolescence

\*Always a time of *preparation* before *operation*, then *culmination*, even now Jesus is preparing for His ministry

\*Today will see the service of John the Baptizer & begin to prepare our hearts for what God wants from us thru Jesus Christ His Son

\*Luke 3 helps us know what should be the ‘fabric of our relationship’ w/ God

\*Even before receiving the substance of the Gospel, what is the fabric on which our relationship is written?

**Today, we’ll see 3 fibers that must be in the fabric of our relationship with God Almighty**

# 1<sup>st</sup> fiber is that we focus on repentance (Vs 1-14)

Read Vs 1-2

1. Luke, is technical writer that wants to show the reliability of these things, gives 6 reference points
  - a. Tiberius began in 14 AD, so this is 29 AD
  - b. Herod the Great's rule was divided into 4 tetrarchs
  - c. Annas was HP & father-in-law to Caiaphas, who was appointed by Rome
2. Notice God is always the initiator and director
  - a. The Word of God *came to* John the Baptist
  - b. Adam/Eve
    - i. Lived by the voice of God in the garden
    - ii. Corrupted themselves to live by image
    - iii. We need to repent of that brothers & sisters

Read Vs 3

1. Notice John preached & the action of baptism followed
2. Matt 3:2 – John's preaching was to say 'repent b/c the kingdom of heaven is soon to come'

## Read Vs 4-6

1. John's ministry was predicted in Isa 40:3-5 of one who makes it easy for Jesus to come in & for the people to be ready to listen
2. Mts and valleys of humility & pride are leveled
  - a. Read Matt 23:12 & I Pet 5:6

## Read Vs 7-9

1. Matthew says he's directly talking to Pharisees when he says vipers or cunning, wicked ones
  - a. Jesus will twice call them vipers & that their heart is evil (Matt 12:34 & Matt 23:33)
  - b. Comfort the afflicted & afflict the comfortable
2. John was a startling person that asks Pharisees to prove it! Prove they've repented of their sins
3. We can't be justified by our group affiliation
  - a. Repentance isn't about family or nation
    - i. In John 8, Jesus says you are a child of whatever you obey
  - b. Repentance is personal faith in God shown by personal works that please God

## Read Vs 10-11

1. He's not saying 'implement communism' or the sharing of all things to the equality of all
  - a. He's saying, if individually you have more than you need, give to the one who is in need
  - b. *Practical love for others is the demonstration of repentance*

## Read Vs 12-14

1. Interesting that Jesus didn't tell these "traitors to Israel" to quit their jobs, but simply to do justly
2. *Practical love for others is to not abuse your power over another, but to do justly*
3. So loving our fellow man isn't salvation, but it a demonstration of making our life path open and ready for God to walk into

## **2<sup>nd</sup> fiber is that we fawn over the Redeemer (Vs 15-22)**

Read Vs 15-17

1. As the focus turned to John himself, he turns it right back to much greater man & baptism
  - a. A baptism into the actual Spirit of God
    - i. Not just turning from the old life, but turning to a new source for life!
    - ii. Read Jer 31:33 & Joel 2:28-29
    - iii. Our water baptism today is just a pic that we have in reality been baptized...
      1. By fire consuming the old life
        - a. Read I Pet 1:6-7
      2. And w/ Holy Spirit bringing new life
    - b. A Man that will separate the people
      - i. Read Matt 10:34 – The Word of God is the fan in His hand

Read Vs 18-20

1. John willingly called out other's sins, even King Herod Antipas
2. Herod knew people saw John as revolutionary they were looking for as Messiah - so imprisoned

## Read Vs 21-22

1. The 1<sup>st</sup> appearance in the NT of the Trinity
  - a. Oh the word Trinity isn't in the Bible, just as the word Rapture isn't, nevertheless the concept is taught
2. Jesus wasn't baptized for need of repentance
  - a. He did it to fulfill all righteousness and to fully identify with sinful man (Matt 3:15)
3. Look at how Jesus will now begin His ministry
  - a. With the power of the Holy Spirit and...
  - b. With the blessing of the Father!
  - c. He's the center of the Trinity & our lives!
4. Pilate at the trial says, "Behold the Man!"
  - a. Jesus – He is THE Man
  - b. He's the true & rightful king of the universe
  - c. And He's the only one worthy to be King of our hearts and lives!

## **3<sup>rd</sup> fiber is that we function on Reliability (Vs 23-38)**

Read Vs 23

1. “As was supposed” b/c Luke knew Joseph was simply Mary’s husband & God was His Father
2. This genealogy is thru Mary & her father Heli
3. Even as we saw Luke open chap 1 & 3 with technical detail, this genealogy is here for us to gain reliability (Read II Pet 1:16)

Four Gospel provide all four genealogies of Jesus

1. Four Gospels
  - a. Matt – The Jewish King came thru Joseph
  - b. Mark – Suffering Servant came thru none
  - c. Luke – Acceptable Man came thru Mary
  - d. John – The Divine One came thru God
2. 4 genealogies; 4 perspectives – all accurate
3. Difference between Matt & Luke
  - a. Matt is the Jewish right to the throne of Israel thru Israels kings
  - b. Luke is the spiritual right to the throne of Israel thru David’s other son Nathan since Jeconiah was cursed by God in Jer 22:30

## Conclusion

So here in the preparation of the ministry of Jesus

We aren't seeing the substance of the Gospel

We're seeing the fabric on which the Gospel is written

Have you been given new life & a new heart in

Jesus? Are these the very fabric of your heart?

### 1. **Are you focused on repentance?**

a. This is the posture of saying, "I'm helplessly sinful and I need God"

b. Words of repentance will show themselves in works of repentance

### 2. **Are you fawning over the Redeemer Jesus?**

a. Would a tractor boast itself above farmer?

i. Repenters see the value of Christ over self

b. Jesus: center of Universe & even the trinity

### 3. **Are you functioning with Reliability?**

a. Bible is more reliable than any other book from antiquity – Resurrection is provable!

b. We don't have a 'hope so' religion but a 'know so' relationship