

LESSON 3

DECEMBER 18, 2022

SUBJECT: John the Baptist Appears

DEVOTIONAL READING: John 1:29-42

BACKGROUND: Luke 3:1-20; John 1:1-51

LESSON: Luke 3:2b-6, 15-18

MEMORY VERSE: He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Luke 3:3 NIV

LESSON AIM: To study how the John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus and how we must prepare our lives for Jesus.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDY OUTLINE

BACKGROUND

1. Identify the following leaders during John the Baptist’s ministry (Luke 3:1-2a):

Roman Emperor – v. 1a \_\_\_\_\_

Governor of Judea – v. 1b \_\_\_\_\_

Ruler (Tetrarch) of Galilee – v. 1c \_\_\_\_\_

Ruler (Tetrarch) of Iturea and Tracoitis – v. 1d \_\_\_\_\_

Ruler (Tetrarch) of Abilene – v. 1e \_\_\_\_\_

High Priests – v. 2a \_\_\_\_\_

I. THE CALLING: LUKE 3:2b-4

2. Where was John the Baptist when he was called to preach? Luke 3:2b (See the maps on page 3.)

3. Who were John’s parents? Luke 1:13

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4. Where did John perform his ministry? Luke 3:3a (See the maps on page 3.)

5. What was the focus of John’s message? Luke 3:3b

6. What prophet foretold of John’s ministry and mission? Luke 3:4a (Isaiah 40:3-5)

7. What prophecy did John fulfill in performing his ministry and mission? Luke 3:4

v. 4b \_\_\_\_\_

v. 4c \_\_\_\_\_

v. 4d \_\_\_\_\_

8. Who is “the Lord” John prepared the way for? John 1:26-30

9. What would the coming Lord accomplish? (These metaphors represent a spiritual transformation through repentance and belief in the Lord.) Luke 3:5

v. 5a \_\_\_\_\_

v. 5b \_\_\_\_\_

v. 5c \_\_\_\_\_

v. 5d \_\_\_\_\_

10. How does the prophecy express that all people will be offered salvation? Luke 3:6

II. THE CHALLENGE: LUKE 3:7-9

11. How did John describe some of the people who came out to be baptized by him? Who was he specifically speaking of? Luke 3:7; Matthew 3:7
12. What was necessary for the people to do to accept John's message and receive the promised Christ? Luke 3:8a
13. What were the Jews who came to John not to depend on to prove they were saved? Luke 3:8b
14. What did John the Baptist express to the Jews that those who were not physical descendants of Abraham could be saved? (John was referring to future Gentiles that would be raised up to serve God.) Luke 3:8c
15. What warning of judgment did John the Baptist give those who came to hear him? Luke 3:9

III. THE CHANGED LIFE: LUKE 3:10-14

16. Identify some of the people who went out to hear and be baptized by John the Baptist:  
Matthew 3:5 \_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew 3:7 \_\_\_\_\_  
Luke 3:12a \_\_\_\_\_
17. What did the people who wanted to be baptized and saved ask of John? Luke 3:10,12b, 14b
18. In what ways were the people to show they had changed? Discuss each.  
Religious Leaders: Luke 3:8a \_\_\_\_\_  
To all: Luke 3:11 \_\_\_\_\_  
Tax Collectors: Luke 3:13 \_\_\_\_\_  
Soldiers: Luke 3:14c \_\_\_\_\_

IV. THE CHRIST: LUKE 3:15-18

19. At the time of John the Baptist's ministry, what was the expectation of the Jewish people? Luke 3:15a
20. What did the people want to know about John? Luke 3:15b; (John 1:19-21)
21. What was John the Baptist's answer to the people about his identity? John 1:19-21
22. How did John identify himself? John 1:22-23
23. How would John's baptism differ from the coming Christ's baptism? Luke 3:16a, 16d
24. How did John compare himself with the coming Christ? Luke 3:16bc
25. How did John describe the mission of judgment of the coming Christ? Luke 3:17
26. Who do you think the "wheat" and "chaff" represent in Luke 3:17? Why do you think so?
27. How does Luke sum up the ministry of John the Baptist? Luke 3:18

v. 18a

v. 18b

# Maps of John the Baptist's Ministry

