

# Studies in the Life of Christ

## NT Survey Lesson 3--Luke 3

**Introduction:** The gospel writers move quickly from the brief discussion of the birth and boyhood of Jesus and John to the ministry of each. In keeping with the prophets' predictions, John, through his strong message of repentance, prepared the way for the Son of God. His testimony is a powerful evidence for the deity of Christ.

**Lesson aim:** To examine the evidence from John's ministry that Jesus was the Son of God.

### John's ministry--Luke 3:1-20

1. What historic events serve to help us locate the time of John's ministry? (v. 1-2)
2. What does the phrase "the word of God came to John" say about him? (v. 2)
3. Where did John do his preaching? (v. 2-3)
4. Describe John's baptism (v. 3).
5. What passage does Luke say John was fulfilling in his ministry? (v. 4-6)
6. What did John call the multitudes? (v. 7) Why?
7. In whose descendency did the Jews feel the assurance of acceptance with God? (v. 8)
8. How did John answer this misconception? (v. 8-9)
9. Of what was John speaking when he talked of the "axe being laid to the root of the tree"? (v. 9)
10. What did John tell each of these groups to do? (v. 10-14)
  - A. Multitudes in general
  - B. Tax-gatherers
  - C. Soldiers

11. Did John profess to be the Christ? (v. 15-17) How did John describe the one coming after him?
12. To what does baptism in fire refer? To what does baptism in the Holy Spirit refer?
13. What did Herod do to John? (v. 18-20) Why?

### **The baptism of Jesus--Luke 3:21-22**

1. What was Jesus doing immediately after his baptism? (v. 21)
2. What remarkable thing happened at Jesus' baptism? (v. 22)

### **The genealogy of Jesus--Luke 3:23-38**

1. About how old was Jesus when he began his ministry? (v. 23) Could you give an approximate date for the beginning of his ministry if you knew that Herod died in 4 BC?
2. To what ending ancestor does Luke trace Jesus? (v. 23-38) Why?
3. Why are the names of the genealogy in Luke 3 different from those in Matthew 1?
4. Why is it important for us to know the genealogy of Jesus?