

### **Luke 3:1-14**

<sup>1</sup>Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip was tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>in the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John, the son of Zacharias, in the wilderness.

<sup>3</sup>And he came into all the district around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins;

<sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,  
" THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS,  
'MAKE READY THE WAY OF THE LORD,  
MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT.

<sup>5</sup>'EVERY RAVINE WILL BE FILLED,  
AND EVERY MOUNTAIN AND HILL WILL BE BROUGHT LOW;  
THE CROOKED WILL BECOME STRAIGHT,  
AND THE ROUGH ROADS SMOOTH;

<sup>6</sup>AND ALL FLESH WILL SEE THE SALVATION OF GOD.'"

<sup>7</sup>So he began saying to the crowds who were going out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?"

<sup>8</sup>"Therefore bear fruits in keeping with repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father,' for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham.

<sup>9</sup>"Indeed the axe is already laid at the root of the trees; so every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

<sup>10</sup>And the crowds were questioning him, saying, "Then what shall we do?"

<sup>11</sup>And he would answer and say to them, "The man who has two tunics is to share with him who has none; and he who has food is to do likewise."

<sup>12</sup>And some tax collectors also came to be baptized, and they said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?"

<sup>13</sup>And he said to them, "Collect no more than what you have been ordered to."

<sup>14</sup>Some soldiers were questioning him, saying, "And what about us, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not take money from anyone by force, or accuse anyone falsely, and be content with your wages."

1. John's baptism was a fulfillment of prophecy and an insult to the Jews.
  - a. Make ready the way of the Lord/Make his paths straight:
    - i. Prepare the people :
      1. For the Messiah
      2. By the Spirit
  - b. Ravines filled / Mountains lowered
    - i. The low will be elevated.
    - ii. The high will be humbled.
  - c. Jews were not baptized. Only Gentiles who wished to convert were baptized.
    - i. John was insulting the Jews by comparing their spiritual condition to that of the Gentiles.
2. The Jew's view of salvation was not God's view of salvation.
  - a. "We have Abraham as our Father"
    - i. The Jews had traded the faith of Abraham for the lineage of Abraham.
    - ii. The Jews mistakenly believed that God would save them because of His promise to Abraham. **Genesis 12:1-3**
      1. They tried to back God into a corner. This isn't the first time this had happened.
        - a. 1 Samuel 15:20-22, Jeremiah 7:4, Galatians 3**
3. Our view of salvation is not God's view.
  - a. We have traded the power of God for a superstitious prayer.
  - b. We have traded a God exalting salvation for a man exalting salvation.
  - c. Mathew 7: 21-23**
4. Conversion defined:
  - a. "Conversion is the *divinely enabled* response of individuals *to the gospel* in which *they turn from their sin* and themselves (repent) *and trust in Jesus as Savior and Lord* (believe)" --Dr. Platt
  - b. Divinely Enabled
    - i. Repentance and Faith are a work of the Holy Spirit
      - 1. Romans 2:4, Ephesians 2:8-9**
  - c. Repentance is intellectual, emotional and volitional
    - i. Psalm 51:4-5, Isaiah 6:5, 1 Thessalonians 1:9**
  - d. Saving faith involves knowledge, trust and obedience
    - i. Romans 10:14-17, John 1:12 , Acts 16:31**
5. What then shall we do?
  - a. Bear fruits in keeping with repentance
    - i. 2 Corinthians 13:5**
  - b. Respond to God in faith with humility, repenting of your sin and throwing yourself on the cross of Christ and you will be saved.

1. John's baptism was a \_\_\_\_\_ and an insult \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Make ready the way of the Lord/Make his paths straight:
    - i. Prepare the people :
      1. \_\_\_\_\_
      2. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Ravines filled / Mountains lowered
    - i. The low will be \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. The high will be \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Jews were not baptized. Only Gentiles who wished to convert were baptized.
    - i. John was insulting the Jews by comparing their spiritual condition to that of the \_\_\_\_\_
2. The Jew's view of \_\_\_\_\_ was not God's \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. "We have Abraham as our Father"
    - i. The Jews had traded the faith of Abraham for the \_\_\_\_\_ of Abraham.
    - ii. The Jews \_\_\_\_\_ believed that God would save them because of His \_\_\_\_\_ to Abraham. **Genesis 12:1-3**
      1. They tried to back God into a corner. This isn't the first time this had happened.
        - a. 1 Samuel 15:20-22, Jeremiah 7:4, Galatians 3**
3. Our view of salvation is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. We have traded the power of God for a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. We have traded a God exalting salvation for a \_\_\_\_\_ salvation.
  - c. Mathew 7: 21-23**
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  - a. "Conversion is the *divinely enabled* response of individuals *to the gospel* in which they *turn from their sin* and themselves (repent) *and trust in Jesus as Savior and Lord* (believe)" --Dr. Platt
  - b. Divinely Enabled
    - i. Repentance and Faith are a \_\_\_\_\_.
    - 1. Romans 2:4, Ephesians 2:8-9**
  - c. Repentance is \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
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  - d. Saving faith involves \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
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