

Luke 3:15-20

<sup>15</sup>Now while the people were in a state of expectation and all were wondering in their hearts about John, as to whether he was the Christ,

<sup>16</sup>John answered and said to them all, "As for me, I baptize you with water; but One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the thong of His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

<sup>17</sup>"His winnowing fork is in His hand to thoroughly clear His threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into His barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

<sup>18</sup>So with many other exhortations he preached the gospel to the people.

<sup>19</sup>But when Herod the tetrarch was reprimanded by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the wicked things which Herod had done,

<sup>20</sup>Herod also added this to them all: he locked John up in prison.

1. The Israelites were eagerly and thoughtfully searching for the Messiah.
  - a. John's preaching and baptism was accomplishing his mission.
    - i. **Luke 3:4**
  - b. "state of expectation" : Gk: prosdokaō : to anticipate in thought, hope or fear
    - i. used 15 times in the NT
      1. **Mathew 11:3, Acts 10:24, 2 Peter 3:12**
  - c. "wondering" : Gk: dialogizomai : to reckon thoroughly, to deliberate.
    - i. used 15 times in the NT
      1. Often translated as "to reason."
2. John shares 11 characteristics of Christ:
  - a. He is coming. (v16)
    - i. Jesus' public ministry did not start until his baptism (**Luke 3:21-22**)
    - ii. Reinforces the idea that John is not the Messiah

- b. He is mightier than John. (v16)
    - i. Gk: ischuros : boisterous, mighty, powerful, strong
      - 1. used 27 times in the NT
        - a. Mathew 14:30
  - c. John is a slave in comparison to him (v16)
    - i. He is worthy, we are worthless
  - d. He is also a baptizer (v16)
    - i. Holy Spirit and Fire
      - 1. Jesus' coming makes the fulfillment of Joel's prophecy possible
        - a. Joel 2:28-29
  - e. He is the Judge of all mankind
    - i. "winnowing fork" : He is a separator of men
      - 1. Mathew 25:31-46
    - ii. "thoroughly clear" : No man will be spared is sifting.
      - 1. Revelation 20:12-15
    - iii. "His threshing floor" : All peoples on Earth are His.
      - 1. John 1:1-3
    - iv. "gather the wheat" : He will save some.
      - 1. John 10:27-28
    - v. "His barn" : He will gather His people to a place.
      - 1. John 14:3
    - vi. "burn the chaff" : He will destroy many.
      - 1. Mathew 7:13-14
    - vii. "unquenchable fire" : His punishment is terrible and unending.
      - 1. Revelation 14:9-11
3. Conclusion:
- a. We must consider whether our view of Christ is accurate when compared with the scriptures.
  - b. We cannot fully embrace Jesus as Savior until we have seen Him as Righteous Judge.

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2. John shares 11 \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ:
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