



Marching to the Cross – Part 2

Introduction

Last week we learned about Luke who is the writer of the book of Luke and the book of Acts. We learned he was a physician by trade. We also learned about the famous women who birth John and Jesus. This week we will dig into Luke chapter 2, 3, and the start of 4.

The birth of Jesus in Nazareth

Luke 2:1-7 NKJV

¹ And it came to pass in those days *that* a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. ³ So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. ⁴ Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. ⁶ So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. ⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Mary and Joseph lose their first-born child!

Luke 2:41-50 NKJV

⁴¹ His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴² And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast. ⁴³ When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother did not know *it*; ⁴⁴ but supposing Him to have been in the company, they went a day's journey, and sought Him among *their* relatives and acquaintances. ⁴⁵ So when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him. ⁴⁶ Now so it was *that* after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers. ⁴⁸ So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously." ⁴⁹ And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them.

Question How do you lose the future savior of the world?

Question Notice Jesus knows His purpose and is fully going after it even at an early age?

John preaches to the people:

Luke 3:1-6 NKJV

3 Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, **2** while Annas and Caiaphas were high priests, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. **3** And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, **4** as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, saying:

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the LORD;

Make His paths straight.

5 Every valley shall be filled

And every mountain and hill brought low;

The crooked places shall be made straight

And the rough ways smooth;

6 And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ”

John confesses that he is not THE CHRIST

Luke 3:15-20 NKJV

15 Now as the people were in expectation, and all reasoned in their hearts about John, whether he was the Christ or not, **16** John answered, saying to all, “I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. **17** His winnowing fan *is* in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather the wheat into His barn; but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire.”**18** And with many other exhortations he preached to the people. **19** But Herod the tetrarch, being rebuked by him concerning Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, and for all the evils which Herod had done, **20** also added this, above all, that he shut John up in prison.

John baptizes Jesus

Luke 3:21-22 NKJV

21 When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened. **22** And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, “You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased.”

Jesus passes the first test and temptation:

Luke 4:1-14 NKJV

4 Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, **2** being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry.**3** And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."**4** But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, [□]but by every word of God.' " **5** Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. **6** And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for *this* has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. **7** Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours."**8** And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.' " **9** Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. **10** For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you,' **11** and, 'In *their* hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.' " **12** And Jesus answered and said to him, "It has been said, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.' " **13** Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.

CLOSING:

- Praise reports
 - tbd

- Prayer Request
 - tbd