

Insights from Luke

#7: It's All About Jesus
Luke 3:15-22

"Young man, what are you all about?"

Luke 3:15

"¹⁵ 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."

"Is he the Christ?"

He was a prophet.

Luke 20:6

"⁶ But if we say, 'From men,' all the people will stone us to death, for they are convinced that John was a prophet."

He was the greatest man who lived up to his time.

Matthew 11:11

"¹¹ Truly I say to you, among those born of women there has not arisen anyone greater than John the Baptist!"

He was not the Messiah.

John 1:6-8

“⁶ There came a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the Light, but he came to testify about the Light.”

He was not the Christ.

John 1:19-20

“¹⁹ This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent to him priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, ‘Who are you?’ ²⁰ And he confessed and did not deny, but confessed, ‘I am not the Christ.’”

Luke 3:16

“¹⁶ 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.’”

Note contrast:

1. His baptism was an outward sign of an inward cleansing.
2. Jesus would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire.
3. John could call people to repentance and could wash them with water, but he could not change them from the inside out.

1. The Spirit adopts, claiming us as children.

Ephesians 1:5a

“⁵ He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself....”

2. The Spirit regenerates.

Titus 3:5

“⁵ He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit.”

3. The Spirit sanctifies us, making us holy like Christ.

Ephesians 4:30

“³⁰ Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.”

4. The Spirit seals, preserving our faith to the end.

Ephesians 1:13

“¹³ In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation — having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise.”

“Every service which a slave performs for his master shall a disciple do for his teacher except the losing of his sandal thong.”

Acts 2:2-4

“² And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.”

Titus 3:5

“⁵ He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit.”

Luke 3:17

“¹⁷ 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.”

Psalm 1:4-6

“⁴ The wicked are not so,
But they are like chaff
which the wind drives away.
⁵ Therefore the wicked
will not stand in the judgment,
Nor sinners in the assembly
of the righteous.
⁶ For the Lord knows the way
of the righteous,
But the way of the wicked will perish.”

Luke 3:18

“¹⁸ So with many other exhortations he preached the gospel to the people.”

Luke 3:3, 8

“³ And he came into all the district around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins ... ⁸ Therefore bear fruits in keeping with repentance”

Luke 3:19-20

“¹⁹ 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,²⁰ Herod also added this to them all: he locked John up in prison.”

Luke 3:21-23

“²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, Jesus was also baptized, and while He was praying, heaven was opened,²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came out of heaven, ‘You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased.’”

He was identifying with sinners and their need for forgiveness.

Isaiah 53:12

“¹² Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, And He will divide the booty with the strong; Because He poured out Himself to death, And was numbered with the transgressors; Yet He Himself bore the sin of many, And interceded for the transgressors.”

Matthew 3:16

“¹⁶ After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and lighting on Him.”

John 1:32

“³² John testified saying, ‘I have seen the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven, and He remained upon Him.’”

**Being a Christian
is synonymous with
being a servant.**

**Be Advised.
A false profession of faith
will not stand up to the fire
of God's judgment as
executed by Christ.**

**Preaching the true gospel
in time will always put you
on the wrong side of the
unbelieving.**

**We are often admonished to
identify with Christ,
but isn't it comforting to
remember that Christ first
identified with us?**