

Sermon Notes | **with** - Luke 3

Big Idea: Prepare the way for the King

Luke 3:1-2

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius **Caesar**, Pontius **Pilate** being governor of Judea, and **Herod** being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother **Philip** tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and **Lysanias** tetrarch of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of **Annas** and **Caiaphas**, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

Luke 3:3

³And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a **baptism of repentance** for the **forgiveness** of sins.

Matthew 3:5-6

Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Luke 3:4-9

⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

"The **voice** of one crying in the **wilderness**:

'**Prepare the way of the Lord,**
make his **paths straight**.

⁵Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,
and the rough places shall become level ways,

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

⁷He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You **brood of vipers!** Who **warned you** to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸**Bear fruits** in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have **Abraham** as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham.⁹Even now the **axe is laid to the root** of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

Luke 3:10-14

10 And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" 11 And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise." 12 Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" 13 And he said to them, "Collect no more than you are authorized to do." 14 Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them,

"Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages."

Luke 3:15–18

15 As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ,¹⁶ John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."¹⁸ So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people.

Luke 3:19–20

19 But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰ added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

Four Ways to Prepare the Way for the King

1. Call people to repent and turn to the King (**v.3**)
2. Announce the coming of the King (**v.4, 16**)
3. Humble yourself before the King (**v.16**)
4. Denounce what is not of the King (**v.19–20**)

Luke 3:21–...38

21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened,²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." ²³ Jesus, when he began his ministry, was about thirty years of age, being the son (as was supposed) of Joseph, the son of Heli, ... of Mattathias, of Amos, of Nahum, of Esli, Naggai, ...of Zerubbabel, ...of David, ... of Jacob, ... of Abraham, ... of Noah, ...of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.

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Discussion Guide | **with** - Luke 3

Read Luke 3

- How would you describe your current level of intensity or seriousness in your walk with Christ?
- What does it look like to bear fruit in keeping with repentance? How might you also encourage others toward repentance?
- In what ways might you be announcing the coming of the King?
- What does it look like for you to denounce what is not of the King?
- How does this passage encourage or motivate you to take more seriously the call to prepare the way for the Lord?