



LUKE 3: 21 – 4: 13

THE BAPTISM, GENEALOGY & TEMPTATION OF THE SON OF GOD



SECTIONS:

- THE**
- ☐ BAPTISM**
- ☐ GENEALOGY**
- ☐ TEMPTATION**
- OF**
- THE SON OF GOD**

THE BAPTISM

LUKE 3: 21 – 22
(ESV)

NOW WHEN ALL THE PEOPLE WERE BAPTISED, AND WHEN JESUS ALSO HAD BEEN BAPTISED AND WAS PRAYING, THE HEAVENS WERE OPENED,

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”.

❖ *ALT. READING:*

*‘WHEN ALL THE PEOPLE WERE BEING BAPTISED, JESUS WAS BAPTISED TOO. **AND AS HE WAS PRAYING**, HEAVEN WAS OPENED AND THE HOLY SPIRIT DESCENDED IN BODILY FORM LIKE A DOVE. AND A VOICE CAME FROM HEAVEN: “YOU ARE MY SON, WHOM I LOVE; WITH YOU I AM WELL PLEASED.”*

(NIV, 1984)



THE UNFOLDING SCENARIO

JESUS HAS WAITED IN OBSCURITY FOR THE FATHER'S APPOINTED MOMENT TO ANNOINT HIM PUBLICLY WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.

NOW, AS HE PRAYS AT HIS BAPTISM, THE MOMENT FINALLY ARRIVES. JOHN THE BAPTIST & THE CROWD PRESENT WITNESS 3 MANIFESTATIONS:

(a) "HEAVEN BEING TORN OPEN" (**Mark 1:10; NIV**)

(b) "THE HOLY SPIRIT DESCENDING ON HIM IN BODILY FORM AS A DOVE"

&

(c) "A VOICE CAME FROM HEAVEN, 'YOU ARE MY BELOVED SON, WITH YOU I AM WELL PLEASED'."



THE UNFOLDING SCENARIO

**THREE DECADES OF INCARNATION -
THIRTY WINTERS OF PERFECTION –
THIRTY YEARS OF PATIENT WAITING
HAD SEASONED HIS HUMAN SOUL,**

&

**NOW BEING IN FEVERENT PRAYER,
JESUS WAS READY TO GO PUBLIC AS
THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD**



THE CRITICALITY & CENTRALITY OF PRAYER

- ❑ **LUKE IS THE ONLY GOSPEL WRITER WHO TELLS US THAT JESUS WAS ANOINTED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT “AS HE WAS PRAYING”**
- ❑ **LUKE SPEAKS OF THE PRAYER OF JESUS 11 TIMES – SEVEN OF WHICH ARE UNIQUE TO HIS GOSPEL**
(See **LUKE 3:21; 5:16; 6:12; 9:18; 11:1; 23: 34, 46**)



JESUS ABSOLUTE DEPENDANCE ON PRAYER

□ **LUKE TELLS STRESSES THE ABSOLUTE CENTRALITY OF PRAYER IN JESUS LIFE & MINISTRY**

(See **LUKE 3:21; 5:16; 6:12; 9:18; 11:1; 23: 34, 46**)

❖ **JESUS PERFORMED MIRACLES,
NOT BECAUSE HE WAS GOD,
BUT BECAUSE HE WAS**

A PRAYERFUL MAN FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.



KEY TAKEAWAY #1 – *THE NECESSITY OF PRAYER*

DO WE DESIRE THE BLESSINGS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

DO WE DESIRE THE BLESSINGS AND AFFIRMATION OF GOD?

DO WE DESIRE POWER FOR MINISTRY?

THEN

WE MUST PRAY.

IF PRAYER WAS NECESSARY FOR THE ETERNAL SON OF GOD,
HOW MUCH MORE IS IT NECESSARY FOR US?



KEY TAKEAWAY #2 – *THE SPIRIT DESCENDS*

THE HOLY SPIRIT DESCENDING LIKE A DOVE & RESTING UPON JESUS HAD NEVER BEFORE HAPPENED IN BIBLICAL HISTORY.

WHY?

WE ARE TOLD THAT JESUS WOULD BAPTISE WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND WITH FIRE (ie WITH PURGING & WITH JUDGEMENT) (LUKE 3:16; REV. 19: 11-16) BUT NOW THE FATHER USES A BIRD THAT IS THE MOST MEEK AND INNOCENT OF ALL BIRDS, WITHOUT MALICE, WITHOUT TALONS, NOT FIERCE, DEVOTED TO ITS MATE FOR LIFE & CAPABLE OF MOURNING THE LOSS OF ITS MATE.

THE DOVE PERFECTLY REPRESENTS JESUS' MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION & HE LONGS TO CONTINUE HIS TENDER WORK IN US (MATT. 11:29; GAL. 5:23; MATT. 10:16)



KEY TAKEAWAY #3 – *THE FATHER SPEAKS*

2 TOPICS:

(a) THE SON OF GOD (LUKE 1: 35; PSALM 2: 7 – 12)

2 ASPECTS TO JESUS AS THE SON OF GOD

- (i) AS A DOVE, HIS MINISTRY IS GENTLE & HE IS UNIQUELY RELATED TO THE FATHER;**
- (ii) AS THE KING OF KINGS AND THE LORD OF LORDS, HIS IRON SCEPTER WILL CRUSH THE NATIONS THAT REBEL AGAINST HIM. THOSE WHO ARE WISE WILL BOW TO HIM AND “KISS THE SON” (PSALM 2: 12)**



KEY TAKEAWAY #3 – *THE FATHER SPEAKS*

(b) THE FATHER' PLEASURE (LUKE 3: 22; ISAIAH 42: 1 – 4; ISAIAH 53: 1 – 12)

2 REASONS FOR THE FATHER'S PLEASURE

(i) RETROSPECT

THE FATHER WAS PLEASED WITH JESUS' HUMBLE INCARNATION & HIS THIRTY YEARS OF EARTHLY CONDUCT & PERFECT RIGHTEOUSNESS

(ii) PROSPECT

THE PROSPECT OF JESUS SUFFERING MESSIAHSHIP & ANTONEMENT – “IT PLEASED THE LORD TO BRUISE HIM”

THE ENTIRE TRINITY WAS INVOLVED AT JESUS' BAPTISM

OVERALL SUMMARY

THIS PASSAGE DEMONSTRATES HOW POWERFULLY GOD WORKS FOR OUR SALVATION.

IT DEMONSTRATES THE MUTUAL WORK OF THE TRINITY AS EACH MEMBER OF THE TRINITY IS EQUALLY CONCERNED FOR THE DELIVERANCE OF OUR SOULS.

YOU MAY FEEL SO FAR FROM GOD, THAT YOU HAVE DONE (OR ARE DOING) THINGS THAT DISQUALIFY YOU & THAT THERE IS NO HOPE FOR YOU – BUT THE HOLY TRINITY DISAGREES!!

THE MAGNIFICENT TRUTH IS THAT THE TRINITY DELIGHTS TO SAVE THE “UNSAVEABLE” ! WHAT A HOPE WE HAVE!!

WHAT A CELEBRATION OF JOY & HOPE THIS BRINGS.

BUT

**LUKE THEN GOES ON TO COUPLE OUR CELEBRATION OF
THE DIVINE SONSHIP OF JESUS WITH THE MARVELS OF HIS
HUMAN SONSHIP**

HOW? THROUGH A GENEALOGY...

THE GENEALOGY

LUKE 3: 21 – 38
(ESV)

**JESUS, WHEN HE BEGAN HIS
MINISTRY, WAS ABOUT THIRTY
YEARS OF AGE, BEING THE SON
(AS WAS SUPPOSED) OF JOSEPH,
THE SON OF HELI....**

**...THE SON OF ENOS, THE SON OF
SETH, THE SON OF ADAM, THE
SON OF GOD.**

LUKE PROVIDES US WITH THE FAMILY TREE OF JESUS BY HIS BIOLOGICAL ANCESTRY THROUGH MARY

LUKE'S FAMILY TREE GOES ALL THE WAY BACK TO ADAM; BECAUSE HE IS DEMONSTRATING THAT JESUS IS **THE HOPE OF EVERY NATION: HE IS **THE TRUE SON OF ADAM**. JESUS HAS COME TO RESTORE WHAT ADAM LOST FOR ALL OF HUMANITY IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN.**

MATTHEW, ON THE OTHER HAND, PROVIDES US WITH JESUS' LEGAL ANCESTRY THROUGH JOSEPH.

MATTHEW WANTS TO DEMONSTRATE THAT JESUS IS THE **HOPE OF THE JEWISH NATION; THE **TRUE SON OF DAVID** & THE **TRUE SEED OF ABRAHAM**.**



KEY TAKEAWAY #1A –

THE STRIKING, CENTRAL POINT OF THIS GENEALOGY BY LUKE IS THAT IT ENDS IN GOD – “THE SON OF ADAM, THE SON OF GOD”.

THIS ENDING IS UNIQUE – THERE IS NO PARALLEL IN THE OLD TESTAMENT OR IN THE RABBINICAL TEXTS FOR A GENEALOGY TO BEGIN OR END WITH THE NAME OF GOD.

**LUKE WANTS US TO UNDERSTAND THAT
ADAM WAS THE “SON OF GOD”**

IN THE SENSE THAT ALL HUMANS ARE THE OFFSPRING OF GOD (SEE [ACTS 17:28](#))



KEY TAKEAWAY #1B –

AS THE FIRST MAN, ADAM CAN THEREFORE BE REFERRED TO AS “THE SON OF GOD”

**HOWEVER,
JESUS, THE ETERNAL SON OF GOD, HAS NOW COME AS PART OF THE
HUMAN FAMILY.**

**JESUS, IN EXERCISING HIS PERFECT ETERNAL SONSHIP,
CAME TO RESTORE AND REDEEM
WHAT ADAM LOST FOR ALL HUMANITY IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN.**

(1 CORINTHIANS 15: 22,45; ROMANS 5: 17)

OVERALL SUMMARY

GOD'S PLEASURE REVERBERATES THROUGH TODAY'S PASSAGE OF SCRIPTURE.

HE WAS PLEASED THAT JESUS HAD LIVED 30 SINLESS YEARS AS "THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD"

HE WAS PLEASED AT THE PROSPECT OF CHRIST'S ATONING DEATH

HE WAS PLEASED THAT THE FAILED FLAWED CHILDREN OF THE FIRST ADAM WOULD BE REDEEMED BY THE BLOOD OF THE FLAWLESS, TRIUMPHANT SECOND ADAM

OVERALL SUMMARY

APART FROM JESUS' WORK AT CALVARY, NO ONE CAN EVER HEAR GOD SAY "YOU ARE MY BELOVED SON, WITH YOU I AM WELL PLEASED" FOR GOD CANNOT SAY THAT TO FLAWED HUMANITY

"IF ANYONE IS IN CHRIST, HE IS A NEW CREATION. THE OLD HAS PASSED AWAY; BEHOLD THE NEW HAS COME."

2 CORINTHIANS 5: 17 (ESV)

IT WILL BE UPON THESE NEW CREATIONS – GOD'S SONS AND DAUGHTERS – THAT HIS PLEASURE ABIDES.

AND JESUS, FULL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, RETURNED FROM THE JORDAN AND WAS LED BY THE SPIRIT IN THE WILDERNESS FOR FORTY DAYS, BEING TEMPTED BY THE DEVIL. AND HE ATE NOTHING DURING THOSE DAYS. AND WHEN THEY WERE ENDED, HE WAS HUNGRY.....

..... AND WHEN THE DEVIL HAD ENDED EVERY TEMPTATION, HE DEPARTED FROM HIM UNTIL AN OPPORTUNE TIME.

THE TEMPTATION

**LUKE 4: 1 – 13
(ESV)**



LOCATED BETWEEN THE
INHABITED
HILL COUNTRY AND THE DEAD
SEA IS THE JUDEAN DESERT,
A WILDERNESS KNOWN AS
JESHIMON (lit. THE
DEVASTATION)



**THE SETTING FOR THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS WAS A DRAMATIC ONE.
IT WAS A DESOLATE, MONOTONOUS DESERT.
IT WAS, IF YOU LIKE, AN ANTI-EDEN.**

PICTURE

A WEARY, HUNGRY CHRIST WHO HAD GONE FORTY DAYS OF ABSTINENCE.

**BEFORE HIM THE RESPLENDENT FIGURE OF SATAN, RADIATING POWER AND
PROMISE – THE VERY PICTURE OF ELEGANT EVIL**

**THE FIRST ADAM FELL TO THE BEAUTIFUL, ELOQUENT SERPENT AMIDST THE
GLORIES OF EDEN, AND NOW THE SECOND ADAM (cf **LUKE 3:38**) FACED SATAN'S
ALLURING POWER AMID THE BARREN DESOLATION**

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS WAS NO ACCIDENT – IT WAS NOT SOMETHING THAT CAUGHT GOD BY SURPRISE.

HIS TEMPTATION WAS CLEARLY ARRANGED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONCLUDING THE PREPARATION FOR JESUS' PUBLIC MINISTRY.

JESUS TEMPTATION WAS THE COUNTERPOINT TO HIS BAPTISM.

AT HIS BAPTISM, HEAVEN OPENED.

AT HIS TEMPTATION, HELL BECKONED.

BOTH PREPARED JESUS TO LIVE AS THE VICTORIOUS SON OF GOD.

(LUKE 3:22; 4: 1,3, 6, 9)



TEMPTATIONS:

- ❖ **WILL JESUS PROVIDE FOR HIS OWN PERSONAL NEEDS?**
LUKE 4: 3, 4
- ❖ **WILL JESUS CHART HIS OWN PATH TO GLORY?**
LUKE 4: 5 -8
- ❖ **WILL JESUS TRY TO MANIPULATE HIS FATHER INTO DOING THINGS HIS WAY?**
LUKE 4: 9 - 12

THE TEMPTATION & THE LESSON #1

| TEMPTATION #1 | | |
|--|--|--|
| TEMPTATION | RESPONSE | LESSON |
| THAT CHRIST MAY PROVIDE FOR HIS OWN MATERIAL NEEDS APART FROM THE FATHER, AND TO MOMENTARILY SUSPEND LIVING LIKE A HUMAN | JESUS REPLY FROM DEUT. 8:3 IS THAT GOD'S POWER IS NOT LIMITED TO PROVIDING ORDINARILY FOR HIS PEOPLE, BUT THAT HE CAN SUPPORT HIS PEOPLE THROUGH EXTRAORDINARY MEANS | AS GOD'S ADOPTED SONS & DAUGHTERS; DO NOT SUCCUMB TO THE TEMPTATION TO GO BEYOND THE PARAMETERS OF GOD'S WORD TO SATISFY OUR PERSONAL NEEDS & DESIRES MAY WE NOT OVERREACH. DO NOT PROMOTE YOURSELF JUST BECAUSE YOU DO NOT SEE GOD DOING IT FOR YOU. GOD CARES FOR YOU (MATT. 6: 25, 26) |

“AND YOU SHALL REMEMBER THE WHOLE WAY THAT THE LORD YOUR GOD HAS LED YOU THESE FORTY YEARS IN THE WILDERNESS THAT HE MIGHT HUMBLE YOU, TESTING YOU TO KNOW WHAT WAS IN YOUR HEART, WHETHER YOU WOULD KEEP HIS COMMANDS OR NOT.

AND HE HUMBLLED YOU AND LET YOU HUNGER AND FED YOU WITH MANNA, WHICH YOU DID NOT KNOW THAT MAN DOES NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE, BUT MAN LIVES BY EVERY WORD THAT COMES FROM THE MOUTH OF GOD.”

DEUTERONOMY 8: 2, 3 (ESV)

[See Deut. 8 : 1 – 18]

THE TEMPTATION & THE LESSON #2

TEMPTATION #2

TEMPTATION

A LEGITIMATE OFFER TO ENTICE CHRIST TO ACCEPT THE GIFT THE WORLD WITHOUT PAIN, WITHOUT WEeping, WITHOUT CRUCIFIXTION –

ALL IT NEEDED WAS A (SMALL) ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SATAN'S LIMITED SOVEREIGNTY

RESPONSE

JESUS RESPONSE WAS TO QUOTE FROM DEUTERONOMY 6:13.
"HIM SHALL YOU SERVE"

THERE IS TO BE NO COMPROMISE IN HIS MINISTRY, NO CONCESSION TO THE POWER BROKERS OF THIS WORLD, NO SEEKING IMPROPER EASE, NO IDOLATRY

LESSON

TODAY'S POPULAR CULTURE TEACHES & TEMPTS US TO AVOID PAIN AND CONFRONTATION & TO TAKE THE EASY WAY.

BUT GOD'S WORD SAYS "ALL THOSE WHO DESIRE TO LIVE A GODLY LIFE WILL BE PERSECUTED" (2 TIM. 3:12)

JESUS REJECTED SATAN'S OFFER AS A HUMAN FULLY DEPENDENT ON HIS FATHER, NOT HIS OWN STRENGTH.

TO TAKE THE EASY WAY TO FOLLOW COMFORTABLE EXPEDIENCY IS **IDOLATRY** – IT IS **WORSHIPPING A FALSE GOD**

**“IT IS THE LORD YOUR GOD YOU SHALL FEAR.
HIM YOU SHALL SERVE AND BY HIS NAME YOU SHALL SWEAR.
YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST, AS YOU
TESTED HIM AT MASSAH.”**

DEUTERONOMY 6: 13, 16 (ESV)

[See Deut. 6 : 10 – 19]

THE TEMPTATION & THE LESSON #3

TEMPTATION #3

TEMPTATION

A CHANGE OF TACTICS –
SATAN QUOTES FROM
PSALM 91: 9 -11.

(a) SATAN TRIES TO LEVERAGE
JESUS' STATED DESIRE TO TRUST
AND OBEY GOD'S WORD.

(b) SATAN TRIES TO LEVERAGE
OFF THE PEOPLE'S EXPECTATION
THAT MESSIAH WOULD BE A MAN
OF GREAT FAITH AND WORK
MIRACLES

JESUS' RESPONSE

JESUS RESPONSE WAS TO QUOTE
FROM DEUTERONOMY 6:16.

JESUS KNEW THAT HE HAD NO WORD
FROM THE FATHER TELLING HIM TO
LEAP OFF THE TEMPLE.

HE KNEW THAT HE SHOULD NEVER PUT
THE LORD TO THE TEST –
EVEN THE HIGHEST & BEST INTENTIONS
DO NOT JUSTIFY OPERATING
CONTARY TO GOD'S WILL

LESSON

THE LESSON IS CLEAR –
DO NOT ATTEMPT TO FORCE
GOD TO ACT.

DO NOT TEST THE LORD
THROUGH **RATIONALISED**
DISOBEDIENCE –
e.g. MISAPPLYING
SCRIPTURES TO JUSTIFY YOUR
ACTIONS;
DIVING INTO A MARRIAGE
THAT DOES NOT HAVE THE
APPROVAL OF GOD'S WORD;
RATIONALISING A RECKLESS
SWAN DIVE BY CRYING OUT
TO THE LORD TO HELP

**THE TEMPTATIONS EACH TRY TO SEDUCE JESUS INTO
MINISTERING OUT OF HIS OWN INHERENT DIVINITY
INSTEAD OF PARTNERING WITH HIS FATHER THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**EACH “THING” OFFERED IN THE TEMPTATIONS WERE GOOD –
SATISFACTION OF ONE’S HUNGER, THE INHERITANCE OF THE KINGDOMS OF
THE WORLD, AND GOD’S PROTECTION.
BUT JESUS REFUSED TO GRASP THEM UNLIKE ADAM PARTAKING OF THE
FORBIDDEN FRUIT.**

**THE TEMPTATIONS WERE TEMPTATIONS OF THE FLESH, THE DEVIL (GAINING
POWER BY SERVING SOMEONE AND NOT GOD), AND THE WORLD.**

CLOSING REFLECTIONS





REFLECTIONS:

- ❖ **PRAYER IS NOT OPTIONAL ESPECIALLY IF WE ARE TO BE HOLY SPIRIT EMPOWERED PEOPLE.**
- ❖ **THE SON OF GOD HAS COME TO RESTORE WHAT ADAM LOST & TO RECONCILE US INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD.**
- ❖ **WE WILL ALL FACE TEMPTATIONS OF THE FLESH, FROM THE DEVIL & THE WORLD BUT WE HAVE ASSURANCE THAT WE CAN RESIST TEMPTATION TOO.**

FINALLY

LUKE CONCLUDES THIS SECTION BY TELLING US THAT “WHEN THE DEVIL HAD ENDED EVERY TEMPTATION, HE DEPARTED FROM HIM UNTIL AN OPPORTUNE TIME.” (LUKE 4: 13)

THIS OCCURRED IN THE PASSION NARRATIVE.

3 TEMPTATIONS AGAIN:

- (a) JESUS COULD HAVE REFUSED TO DRINK THE CUP, BUT HE DID NOT (LUKE 22:42)**
- (b) JESUS COULD HAVE AVOIDED ALL THAT WAS TO COME BY STRIKING DOWN THOSE WHO CAME TO ARREST HIM, BUT HE DID NOT (LUKE 22: 49 – 53)**
- (c) JESUS COULD HAVE COME DOWN FROM THE CROSS AND SAVE HIMSELF, BUT HE CHOSE NOT TO (LUKE 23: 35 – 39)**

WHY? BECAUSE OF LOVE AND OBEDIENCE.



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