

LUKE 3



In 5 minutes...

WHEN:

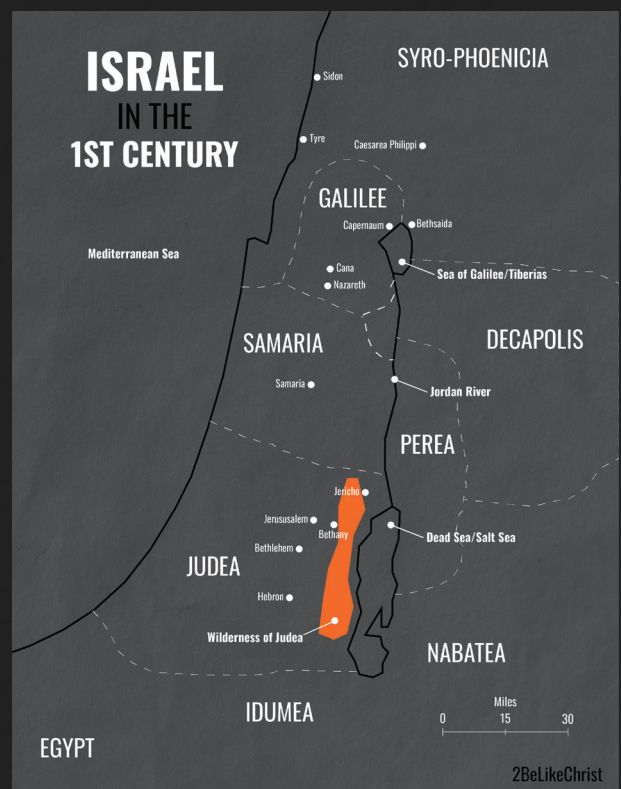
- The 15th year of Tiberius Caesar.
- Tiberius began to reign on September 18th, 14 A.D. which places the events of Luke 3 in 29-30 A.D..
- The genealogy in the 2nd half of the chapter records Jesus' relatives from 1 A.D. back to the beginning of the world.

CHARACTERS:

- **Tiberius Caesar** - Emperor of Rome from 14 A.D. to 37 A.D..
- **Pontius Pilate** - 5th Roman governor of the region of Judea who presided at the trial of Jesus.
- **Herod the Tetrarch (Herod Antipas)** - Appointed by the Roman Empire to reign over Galilee and Perea.
- **Philip the Tetrarch (Herod Philip II)** - Half-brother of Herod Antipas and ruler of Iturea and Trachonitis.
- **Lysanias Tetrarch of Abilene** - Abilene was a small region north of Philip's territory, to the west of Damascus.
- **Annas** - Appointed High Priest of the Jews in 6 A.D., was removed from office in 15 A.D..
- **Caiaphas** - Appointed High Priest of the Jews by Pontius Pilate, was removed from the office in 37 A.D..
- **John (John the Baptist)** - Son of Zechariah and Elizabeth, chosen by God to prepare the way for the Messiah.
- **Jesus' Relatives** - Dating all the way back to Adam and Eve.

WHERE:

- John was preaching in the wilderness of Judea.
- This wilderness was/is located on the west side of the Dead Sea.



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OVERVIEW:

- LUKE SETS THE STAGE ON WHICH JOHN PREACHES AND THE MESSIAH APPEARS (3:1-3:2a):
 - + Luke records the imperial and regional leaders in power when John began preaching in the wilderness.
 - + Tiberius, Pilate, Antipas, Philip, Lysanias, Annas, and Caiaphas were all governing in the Roman Empire.
- MINISTRY OF JOHN (3:2b-3:14):
 - + John (John the Baptist) began preaching in the wilderness of Judea and the region around the Jordan River.
 - + He instructed his Jewish audiences to be baptised for the forgiveness of sins.
 - + John's ministry fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah 40:3-4
 - + He condemned the Pharisees and Sadducees for their hypocrisy.
 - + He told them to repent and stop relying on their Jewish heritage to save them.
 - + The honest hearts in the audience came to John and asked what they ought to do to please God.
 - + He taught the common people, the tax collectors, and the soldiers how to live and work in a godly way.
- JOHN'S IDENTITY IN QUESTION (3:15-3:20):
 - + After a while, some of the Jews started to suspect John might be the Messiah.
 - + John didn't leave any question, he was not the Messiah.
 - + The Messiah was going to come with power and blessing more robust than he could bestow.
 - + John baptized with water, the Messiah would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire.
- JESUS IS BAPTIZED BY JOHN (3:21-3:22):
 - + Many people were being baptized by John.
 - + Jesus came from Nazareth and was baptized in the Jordan River (Mark 1:9).
 - + Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit as He descended on Jesus like a dove (Luke 3:22; Acts 10:38).
 - + A voice spoke from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."
- THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS (3:23-3:38):
 - + Jesus was 30 years old when He was baptized and started His ministry.
 - + The remainder of the verses in the chapter record Jesus' family tree.
 - + It begins with Jesus' parents and records His male ancestors all the way back to the creation of the world.
 - + Several important Old Testament figures are listed: David, Boaz, Abraham, Noah, Seth, and Adam.
 - + The genealogy proves Jesus was qualified to fulfill the role of the Messiah.

BIG PICTURE:

- The prophets, even the angels, had long desired to understand how God would save His people (1 Peter 1:12). John is giving the world an introduction to God's method.

TAKEAWAYS:

- John never pointed people to himself, he was unwavering in giving Jesus the attention. We need to be like John!
- The boring parts of the Bible matter. Genealogies aren't fun to read, but the details they contain are vital to the Bible's story.