


Lesson Three: The Early Ministry of John the Baptist and Jesus' Baptism and Temptation

Lesson

Texts
Fourfold Gospel
pp. 62-108
Matthew
3:17 - 4:11
Mark
1:1-13
Luke
3:1-22 4:1-13
John
1:19-34

The Ministry of John the Baptist (Matthew 3:1-12; Mark 1:1-8; Luke 3:1-20)

1. Briefly describe John the Baptist as to his dress, diet, and lifestyle.
2. What was the basic message of John's preaching?
3. What baptism did John preach? In what region of Palestine was he baptizing?
4. How did the Jews react to John's preaching and baptizing? Give evidence to support your answer.
5. What did John say to the Scribes and Pharisees who came to be baptized by him? Why?
6. What was John referring to when he said, "*And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees?*"
7. How did John compare himself to the Christ?
8. What did John say the Christ would do when He came? How and when would that be done?

The Baptism of Jesus by John (Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22)

9. What did John the Baptist say to Jesus when he saw Him coming to be baptized of him? What was Jesus' answer to him?
10. Briefly describe the events surrounding the baptism of Jesus.

Jesus' Temptation in the Wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11; Mark 1:12,13; Luke 4:1-13)

11. By whom and for what purpose was Jesus led into the wilderness?

12. How long did Jesus fast? Briefly state what you believe His physical, mental, and emotional conditions might have been.

13. What did Satan say to Jesus in an effort to get Him to turn stones into bread? How did Jesus answer this temptation?

14. What was Satan's second appeal to Jesus? How did Jesus answer it?

15. What was Satan's third appeal to Jesus? How did Jesus answer it?

16. Since both Satan and Jesus used Scripture, describe the basic differences in how they used it.

John the Baptist Testifies of Jesus (John 1:19-34)

17. What was John's initial reply to the priests and Levites who asked him who he was? When pressed for a more definite answer, what did he say?

18. When asked why he baptized, since he was not the Christ, Elijah, or one of the prophets, what was John's answer?

19. When John saw Jesus approaching, what did he say to the multitudes who were listening to him?

20. How did John know Jesus was/is the Son of God?