

**The Two Treatises**  
Lesson 4

**The Lord's Birth, Early Years, & Baptism**  
**John's Ministry & Jesus' Genealogy**  
**Luke 2 – 3**



**Introduction**

The “fullness of times” finally comes (cp. Gal. 4:4)...the Messiah is born!! Luke records His birth and scant details of His “growing up years.” He fast forwards to the beginning of John's ministry as John starts to “prepare the way” for Jesus and his baptism of the Son of God. This lesson closes with genealogical proof of who Jesus really is.

**Jesus' Birth (2:1-20)**

- 1) Upon her return from visiting Elizabeth, how far along would Mary have been in her pregnancy? (cp. 1:56) What would Joseph have naturally thought? (cp. Mt. 1:18-25)
  
- 2) What mandated the couple's trip to Bethlehem? (vv. 1-5)
  
- 3) Describe the surroundings. (vv. 6-7) Do you see this as “significant?” (cp. Mt. 20:28)
  
- 4) Who else was “invited” to the stable? (vv. 8-20) Who is noticeably absent? (Mt. 2:1, 11)

**Jesus In Jerusalem, Nazareth (2:21-52)**

- 5) What is described in v. 21? Why was this important? (cp. Gen 17:12)
  
- 6) What is described in vv. 22-24? Why was this important? (cp. Ex. 13:2, 12; Lev. 12:2-8)
  
- 7) Who gets to see the new Baby in Jerusalem? (vv. 25-28) Of what did he prophesy? (vv. 29-35)

## The Two Treatises

### Lesson 4

- 8) Who also was allowed to see Jesus? (vv. 36-38) What did she do?
- 9) Where did the family go next? (vv. 39-40) How is the Child described in these verses?
- 10) What "Jewish routine" does Luke describe in vv. 41-51? (cp. Ex. 23:14-17) How many years have passed since Jesus' birth? What would have been special about this year's "routine?"
- 11) Describe what happened on this trip to Jerusalem and how each one involved reacted.
- 12) How does v. 52 serve as a "summary?" Judging from 3:23, how many years does it cover?

### Johns' Ministry (3:1-20)

- 13) How does Luke date his "first treatise?" (vv. 1-2a) Whose time had now come? (vv. 2b-6; cp. 1:16-17, 76-79) What O.T. prophecy does Luke mention?
- 14) What characterized John's preaching? (vv. 7-14)
  - a) What did he emphasize?
  - b) Of what did he warn?
  - c) How did he advise the people re: their conduct?
- 15) With what "expectation" did John have to continually contend? (vv. 15-17)
- 16) What "misfortune" does Luke succinctly summarize in vv. 18-20?

## The Two Treatises

### Lesson 4

#### Jesus' Baptism (3:21-22)

- 17) What did John do for Jesus? Why? (cp. Mt. 3:15)
  
- 18) What had John already been told about this? (Jn. 1:19-34)

#### Jesus' Genealogy (3:23-38)

- 19) How does this genealogy compare with the one recorded by Matthew? (Mt. 1:1-17)
  
- 20) Thought question: be able to factor in Rom. 1:3 into this "genealogical discussion."