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Luke 1:16-17

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Luke 1:16-17

[1] 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...

[2] during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

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

[4] As 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.

[5] Every 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, [6] and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.””



[7] He 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.

[9] Even 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.”

[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.”

[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 3:1-18

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

Luke 3:3

The prepared heart knows  
where it stands before God.

Every 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, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’’

Jesus is the great equalizer.



Mike Powell

For there is no distinction: for **all** have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 3:22b-23



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v. 9b: Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is **cut down** and thrown into the fire.

v. 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.

For the wages of sin is death...

Romans 6:23

The prepared heart knows  
where it stands before God.

For nothing will be impossible with God.  
Luke 1:37



Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?” But he said, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.”

Luke 18:26-27

Forgiveness is the  
impossible made possible  
through God's grace.

And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?”

Luke 3:10

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.

Luke 3:8

**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.

Luke 3:8

Repentance is a change of vision, affections, and mind that always effects a change of behaviour.

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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 3:12-14

The prepared heart is  
repentant before God.