

Luke 3:1-4:13

The Preparation for the Public Ministry of Jesus

3:1-6 John the Baptist

- ▼ *Located in the Roman Empire in 28-29 C.E.*
- ▼ *A second lengthy, formal sentence marking the start of a new section.*

3:7-18 John's preaching

- ▼ *"Normal" ethics, not what Jesus will demand.*

3:19-20 John's imprisonment

- ▼ *Serves to wrap up John's ministry cleanly before Jesus appears. Compare to where Mark put this story.*

3:21-22 Jesus' baptism

- ▼ *Who baptizes Jesus? De-emphasizes John, emphasizes role of the Spirit.*

3:23-38 Jesus' genealogy

4:1-13 Jesus' temptation

▼ *The significance, in recounting a story, of "three." In the gospel, three denials by Peter, three taunts on the cross, etc.*

▼ *temptation 1, stone to bread: using God's power for material gain*

▼ *temptation 2, worship devil in order to be worshiped : breaking allegiance to God to gain allegiance*

▼ *temptation 3, throw yourself down: using God's power in self-indulgence*

▼ *How did people find out about the temptations? A figurative recounting of real temptations.*

▼ *Strong biblical witness to the temptations: Mark 1:13, Matt 4:1ff, Heb. 2:17-8, 4:15, 5:2*

▼ *Compare to Israel's failures to resist temptation when the nation wandered 40 years in the wilderness:*

1) *worries about food (warned, Deut. 8:3, failed Exod 17:1-7)*

2) *golden calf (warned, Deut. 6:4-5, failed Deut. 9:6-29)*

3) *putting God to the test (warned, 6:16)*