

Luke chapter 4

Why did Jesus go into the wilderness [1]? Is it true that “all the kingdoms of the world” are under Satan's authority, and we are all subject to his whims [6]? Was Satan defeated [13]?

The passages from Isaiah in verses 18-19 are from a section associated with the coming Day of the Lord; would the people of the synagogue in Nazareth be likely to interpret this passage as a reference to the Messiah? Are the people's reactions in verse 22 and in verse 28 inconsistent? What has got them all upset? Did Jesus deliberately provoke them [23-27]?

Verses 15, 22, 32, and 36 are similar; how do people perceive Jesus, and why?

In verse 42 Jesus is back in the wilderness, do we know why?

Luke chapter 15

The three parables in this chapter were all told in response to a single incident in the first two verses. Who did Jesus tell these stories to? What issue is he addressing? (Note that this is not the first time this issue has come up: see Luke 5:27-32, and Luke 7:37-50.)

Did he really need all three of these stories? How are they similar, and -- perhaps more importantly -- how do they differ?

Luke chapter 19

Who is complaining that Jesus is eating with sinners [7]? Did He have to tell three stories this time to explain why? Zacchaeus didn't kneel and recite the “penitent's prayer” or read through the “ABCs of Salvation” -- what was the evidence of his conversion? Did he buy his salvation? [8]

The people thought the Kingdom of God would soon appear [11]; what did Jesus have to say about that? Who did Jesus say would be executed [27]? Does He sound gracious or merciful here?

What are the Pharisees complaining about this time [39]?

Explain the “because” in verse 44: what happens? and why? In this instance, Jesus is what others have sometimes called Him -- a prophet.

Who was looking for Jesus? Compare verses 1-3, 37, and 47.

Next week: John chapters 1, 9, and 17.