

[Music]

Abraham had Isaac Isaac he had Jacob  
Jacob me at you to his kin Ben Peres and  
Sarah came from Judas woman Tamar here  
as he brought his run up and man King  
era men  
the nation' who was then the dad of  
Salman with rehab father :  
ruchi Mary go as you have  
who had Jesse Jesse he had  
no asking well welcome back to Wednesday  
night Bible study and a lot of people  
find genealogies boring and they open  
the Bible and so and so begat so and so  
and they basically fall asleep and  
disconnect and yet both Matthew and Luke  
go to great pains to make sure that we  
understand the genealogy of Jesus Christ  
and here in Luke chapter 3 Luke is going  
to express the the genealogy of Christ  
and he's going to do it very differently  
than Matthew and we need to understand  
why and that's what we're going to cover  
later in Luke chapter 3 but there's a  
lot in Luke chapter 3 to unpack so let's  
get started and we'll open with prayer  
Heavenly Father we bow before you and  
just thank you so much Lord for the  
Gospel according to Luke we thank you  
for the scriptures  
we thank you Lord for Jesus Christ we  
pray that you'll help us to understand  
him I was to appreciate him help us to  
love him more deeply we thank you Father  
and pray now that you'll bless our study  
fill us with your spirit and fill us  
with understanding and wisdom we ask  
this in our Lord's name Jesus Christ  
amen so beginning with Matthew he opens  
up his gospel right from the get-go with  
the genealogy of Christ the book of the

genealogy or the genesis of Jesus Christ the Son of David the son of Abraham and so he makes it very clear that Christ is the son of David really alluding to the Davidic covenant the Covenant that God made with David to send the Messiah and also the the promises made to Abraham and that the covent the Covenant promises that would be fulfilled in Christ through Abraham so that's how Matthew begins his gospel mark doesn't do that look how mark begins his gospel the beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God so he doesn't go into the genealogy just makes it plain that Jesus Christ is the son of God and that's what he wants us to understand and this is the beginning of the gospel and then he goes straight to the prophets as it is written in it's any quotes to profits here he quotes Isaiah behold I send you my messenger before your face who will prepare your way before you I sorry that's up Malachi and then he quotes Isaiah the voice of one crying in the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord make his paths straight so Mark wants us to understand this is the Son of God and he's fulfilling the prophecies that foretold that the Son of God would come both in Malachi and in Isaiah and then finally with that as the intro he goes straight into the Ministry of John the Baptist verse 4 John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins so we see how both of these men opened their Gospels really getting straight to the point Luke doesn't do this he takes the three chapters before he gets to the genealogy of Christ so so Matthew skips which Luke thinks is very important for Theophilus

to understand how John was conceived how and when he was conceived in the prophecies that were fulfilled in his conception and and how and when Christ was conceived and the prophecies that were fulfilled and the prophecies that were foretold when Christ was born and and so before getting into the genealogy Luke wants Theophilus to understand this as the beginning mark now he gets straight into the prophecies around John the Baptist's ministry and how he is the forerunner to the Messiah and and now in chapter 3 Luke addresses this as well so both Matthew and Mark start much later in the order of affairs or they sequence of events than Luke does and notice we remember when Luke opened up his gospel to Theophilus he says in as much as many have taken in hand to set an order and narrative of those things which have been fulfilled among us so these are prophecies that have been fulfilled with the entrance of Christ into the earth just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word delivered them to us us being the Israelites remember I and I have to apologize in in past studies I've said that Luke is a Gentile or Luke was a Gentile and that's actually incorrect because Luke was converted and he was grafted into Israel so when Luke says delivered them to us he is speaking to Israel and he is every much an Israelite as a natural born Israelite because he's been grafted in so he says they were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word and delivered them to us it seemed good to me also having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first to write to you an orderly account most excellent

Theophilus this is a really gracious way of saying I've read the gospel that Mark wrote and possibly he read the gospel that Matthew wrote that there were not a hundred percent sure about that but the approach that Matthew takes of beginning with a Abraham and David to show that Christ is the son of David the son of Abraham many of them would take that approach because they're trying they're speaking to an Israelite Jewish audience and they want them to understand this is our Messiah the promises were to Abraham the promises were to David they're fulfilled in Christ and it's speaking to a very closed audience a very closed group so many would take that approach mark he's the son of God and he gets straight into the prophecies to Israel about the Son of God coming into the earth and again Luke looks at these approaches and says to Theophilus you need to understand something more I need to give you the whole story so Luke backs up and and gives a much broader approach to the gospel so now when we finally come to Luke chapter 3 we did in Luke 1 we saw the conception of John the Baptist I'm sorry yes Don the Baptist and then we saw the conception in Luke chapter 2 of Jesus Christ and the prophecies associated with them and the prophecies that were told at the time of their their birth and now Luke now now comes into chapter 3 where he picks up where Mark started he now comes to agree with mark as to to John the Baptist ministry but he puts it in a different context mark just says Jesus was the son of God here we go luke says he makes it clear that in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar and Pontius Pilate being governor over Judah Herod being Tetrarch of

Galilee his brother Philip Tetrarch of  
AI Turia and the region of track and  
itis and listen s licinia's tetrarch of  
abilene while Anna's and Caiaphas were  
high priests so he gives this backdrop  
of all of these rulers who we can really  
understand as abusers so so Israel are  
the people of God and they are to set up  
the kingdom of God on earth they did  
that with King David and then King  
Solomon and they were the beacon they  
were the Lighthouse of the whole earth  
and everybody was to look to them to  
understand the God of Israel  
unfortunately they failed and as a  
result of their sinfulness they were  
exiled they were pushed out of the land  
and they were taken into captivity and  
they were scattered and that was because  
of their sinfulness but the prophecy  
said that they would be restored and so  
they have been looking for this  
restoration but Gentile Empire after  
Gentile Empire have been governing over  
them and abusing them and even when you  
know Anna's and Caiaphas are high  
priests they are not high priests like  
Aaron was a faithful high priest these  
are now abusers as well there they are  
part of the Roman system and so Luke  
wants Theophilus to understand that in  
the midst of the power of these Gentile  
rulers who are really puppets of the  
devil comes Christ  
and comes the forerunner to Christ John  
John John the Baptist is coming as the  
forerunner to this nudist rightful king  
and this this kingdom that's going to  
replace these kingdoms now today  
2017 we're still the people of God under  
these Gentile powers who are puppets of  
the devil  
and here you know in Canada we are  
struggling with a government that is

taking away our freedoms and I just want to call your attention to this this this alarm that's being sound from the rebel media and please pay attention to this I'm not sure if you had the sound there but this lady faith Goldie was basically sounding an alarm that the Canadian government is about to pass bill m103 and bill m103 is a law that they want to pass to make any criticism of Islam illegal even if what you say is true it is a criminal offense it's going to be considered hate speech and this is being passed what she says this is being passed silently basically under the radar and no media are reporting on this and so they have basically they're making an appeal to sign a petition to tell the government that we do not want this this Sharia law in Canada and this is coming from our our prime minister who on the demise er or the demise of Fidel Castro said that this was a great man that he was a great leader and he was a dictator and what we need to understand is that the left governments are very much totalitarian and it's no different than what Luc was writing about when he was writing about Tiberius Caesar and the way that they were governing and abusing the people of God we find the same thing today with these liberal leftists who are in fact totalitarian and and they can hide behind good-looking suits and nice you know model models but they are totalitarian and then you see here this kind of collusion with Islam which is very hard to understand unless you understand that Islam is a totalitarian religion and or ideology and leftist governments are totalitarian in nature as well so you know I really appeal to us to do two things number one let's

pray for our leaders especially when you have such a young man like this who has just kind of been you know one one day he's a ski instructor the next thing he's running a country and now he's mixing with people and you can anybody's we're human beings when we're in a new class we want to fit in and there are certain things that we can say and do and everybody pass us on the back and shows their approval and there are certain things that we can say and do and were frowned upon and sure and people learned very quickly how to fit into their new circle of friends and and so justin trudeau our prime minister is mixing with some very powerful individuals on the global scene and he's learning to say and do things to fit in but those things are not necessarily godly things and so number one I'm going to appeal to us to pray for our leaders and south of the border now Donald Trump is in power and we're seeing worldwide condemnation of his election even though he's in a democratic country he was democratically elected and we should give him four years or so not we the Americans should give him four years as the system works instead we're seeing this global condemnation of him we need to pray for our leaders and we need to pray that we are able to preach the gospel that we're able to bring the truth to the billions of people who are in darkness and then secondly number number two is please sign this petition this is a very very serious matter and I really appreciate the rebel media flagging this and bringing this to our attention that Sharia law is creeping into Canada and we need truth we need to be able to speak the truth we need to be able to

cook to debate and disagree with each other this is the Western civilization is built upon freedom of speech so I'm going to plead with you to go to freedom to offend calm freedom to offend calm and sign the petition click that red bar that says sign the petition now and we want to show the government that we value free speech

now George Orwell who's the author of 1984 he said this during times of universal deceit telling the truth becomes a revolutionary act and that's what preaching the gospel is all about we are involved in a revolutionary act preaching the gospel is a revolutionary act Jesus Christ when he came to earth he started a revolution and his disciples and all of the the followers of Christ since then have been involved in this revolutionary act of preaching the truth and George Orwell without I don't

he understood the scriptures I don't think so but he understood human nature and he looked at human nature and on his deathbed he wrote this this book as he was dying he wrote this book 1984 in 1948 to warn us of the nature of mankind and the totalitarian type of control that human beings seek to have over each other and so he wrote this book to warn us and to warn us about language and he talked about this language called in sock or ho which was English socialism which we're seeing today in English socialism and Newspeak and basically removing words from the language in order to control people's thoughts because we think with words and if the words come out of the language we can no longer think those thoughts and all of that was to move people towards submission to totalitarianism and this



is what's happening today it may not happen tomorrow but it's what he could see in 1948 is this is where we're heading and when we read the scriptures we see that this final beast which is coming so the Roman Empire was a beast power we had the persian beast we had the greco-macedonian peace beast we had the the babylonian beastly we had the Egyptian these powers we have all of these different beast powers that abuse the people of God and there's another one to come and the book of Revelation shows us the nature of that beast and we're seeing today this sort of global agreement all these countries of greeting and seeing things the same way and submitting to totalitarianism and it's coming and we have to have the Holy Spirit and the boldness to preach the gospel and understand that were part of our own revolution so again freedom to offend calm and sign the petition to show our government that we value free speech and don't forget to pray for our leaders continuing then in this passage where Luke wants it once Theophilus to understand that Satan is ruling over God's people through these human puppets and they're abusing God's people and they're crucifying God's people and they're raping and abusing and doing all these horrible things to God's people and they're the cause people are crying out they're crying out and in the midst of all of this he begins the Ministry of John the Baptist to say a new kingdom is coming and new a new world order is coming so these were the high priest in in the midst of all of this the Word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness so so this is what happened and and this is harkening back

to what he said in Chapter 1 that he has shown strength with his arm he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts he has put down the mighty so all of these men that are ruling over God's people this when Christ comes he's going to put down the mighty he's going to put them down from their Thrones and he's going to exalt the lowly so the world is upside down pagan people under the influence of the devil are in are are on Thrones and the lowly are being abused well when Christ comes he's going to reverse this and the lowly are going to be exalted and the mighty are going to be stripped of their power because Satan will be stripped of his power he has filled the hungry with good things and the rich he has sent to sent away empty now it's important for us to understand how he does this it's not that you know there's these people who are in power and there are the abusers and we're going to overthrow them so that we can be the abusers and that's something that his disciples didn't quite understand if you look at Matthew when they came to understand that Christ is coming to be king then then look at this request the mother of Zebedee's sons came to him with her sons kneeling down and asking something from him and he said to her what do you wish she said to him grant that these two sons of mine so there's sort of self-interest I want these two sons of mine that they may sit one on your right hand and one on your left in your kingdom so so notice she's not saying you know we just want to go to heaven and we want to be with you in heaven forever they understood very clearly that Christ was coming to earth that he was setting up a kingdom a real

Kingdom

and what she wanted was her two sons to be the the Vice Regents you know the lieutenants that the the the the second-in-command with him in this new kingdom but Jesus answered and said you don't know what you ask you see the only model that they understand of kingdoms are these pagan kingdoms these kingdoms that have abused them in the present and in their history and so that's how they understand kingdoms work and so they're now asking that Christ would do the same and he says are you able to drink the cup that I'm about to drink and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with and he is of course speaking to the fact that he is our Passover he is our Passover and this is what he's alluding to and he has to suffer he has to be this perfect Passover lamb and suffer and be slaughtered in order to inherit his kingdom and now he's asking them you know Kent can you be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with and they said to him we are able not perhaps fully understanding what they're saying so he said to them you will indeed drink my cup and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with so so we need to understand that Christianity is not for the faint of heart

Christianity is not for cowards

Christianity is not a hobby it is a revolutionary Act it is a wholehearted life time commitment and that's what we signed up for we're gonna follow Christ and when we really understand this vision where we can't lose we cannot lose and so this is where the boldness comes the Holy Spirit gives us the vision of the kingdom that's coming and we understand what's coming and this is

what gives us this boldness to to engage  
in this this revolutionary act of  
preaching a new kingdom in the midst of  
the Satanic powers or the Satan  
influence powers and so he says you will  
indeed so every one of the disciples  
except John suffered martyrdom so you  
will indeed drink my cup and be  
baptized with the baptism that I am  
baptized with but to sit on my right  
hand and on my left is not mine to give  
this is going to be ordered from the  
father it is for those for whom it is  
prepared by my father so there are many  
offices in this kingdom and nobody's  
going to be in an office that they're  
not qualified for you can't go from ski  
instructor to world ruler without any  
kind of preparation and so God has taken  
all of us regardless of how lowly we may  
be he lifts the lowly so I may just be a  
lowly ski instructor and that's all I  
know but I've been learning Christian  
character and I've been developing my  
understanding of the kingdom and God is  
preparing me as he's preparing you and  
preparing every one of us that have his  
Holy Spirit to occupy different offices  
in the kingdom and it's gonna be a very  
orderly thing it's not just hey I want  
power I want I want and therefore I  
should be in the highest office no we'll  
all be in the office that's been  
prepared for us and so the other 10 now  
the other disciples when they heard this  
they were great they were angry they  
were furious they were greatly  
dissipated displeased with the two  
brothers it's like hey are you trying to  
get one up on us or you you know it's  
not fair that you got to him before us  
to make that request  
so everybody's sort of thinking this  
worldly way of grasping for power but

that's not the way it works and the way it works is the Passover that Christ by coming that with that same pontus pilot that is mentioned under Tiberius Caesar he is going to put Christ to death the same Herod that is mentioned under Tiberius Caesar he's going to put John he's going to be head John the Baptist what they don't understand is that's how the revolution is won we we cannot lose and so Christ came as this perfect lamb and by slaughtering him thinking that they've got the victory that's exactly how they lost and that's exactly how Christ claimed the victory and introduces this new way of governing this is this new Kingdom and so he says to his disciples that you know the Gentiles exercise Dominion and lordship over their subjects but it shall not be so among you he that is greatest among you let him be your servant it's a completely different way of thinking so when Christ takes the lowly and puts us on Thrones and puts us in offices over this world that old way of governing will be completely gone as pictured by the vision that Daniel had where that that statue that that Nebuchadnezzar saw that a stone without hands picture in Christ is going to strike that image in its feet that the last final kingdom and it's going to crumble and a wind is going to come and blow every trace of it away there'll be no trace of it left and so this new Kingdom that's coming that Christ is going to establish is completely different it has a completely different methodology a completely different approach it's about love not power it's about service not subjugating not totalitarianism and so this victory it's

coming and and it you know when Christ came there's the victory in fact we'll see that in in the next chapter next week the victory that Christ has so so Christ so Luke begins his gospel then wanting Theophilus to understand that in the midst of these Gentile rulers the King begins his ministry and before he begins his ministry his forerunner comes fulfilling the prophecies to say yes this is the Son of God that has come and this is the announcer of that bad messenger this is the messenger to announce the Son of God and so here now what Luke does so mark conflated the two prophets mark just says he's the son of God as spoken in the prophets Malachi said this Isaiah said this Luke unpacks that and he says let's slow down here Malachi doesn't fit right now let's just focus on Isaiah's prophecy and he brings in Malachi later so here he says as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet saying the voice of one crying in the wilderness prepare the way of the law so so Isaiah says that that one's gonna come from the wilderness and so Zechariah begins his ministry in the wilderness and so proper this was prophesied by Isaiah and and that this messenger would be telling us that the Lord is coming Yahweh is coming prepare the way of Yahweh prepare the way of the Lord make his paths straight he's coming to stop fooling around get your life in order the king is coming make his paths straight every Valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill brought low the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough ways smooth and all flesh noticed this now this is where you see Luke taking with the Ovilus this global approach so

so mark and Matthew are really focused on the truth to Israel Luke has this global view that Gentiles are included as well and so there is Gentile rulers who are subjugating the people of God but they're abusing everybody the whole world is under this subjugation to the devil and his puppets and so here he says that when the Lord comes all flesh shall see the salvation of God and so he meets the awfulest to understand that this isn't something that Paul invented with his ministry this goes all the way back thousands of years and it was prophesied by the prophets including here Isaiah that all flesh shall see the salvation of God now in Luke chapter 7 when we get there he deals with Malachi so in Luke chapter 7 where where Mark just conflates the to Luke separates them and he says you know the prophecy about Malachi that comes later but where Christ says but what did you go out to see a prophet yes I say to you and more than a prophet this is he of whom it is written written in Malachi and notice Christ is now quoting Malachi behold I send my messenger before your face that is before the face of the Lord who will prepare your way before you so the Lord is coming but a messenger comes first and so Luke Luke says I'll deal with that later to Theophilus he wants to do this in an orderly way and so the orderly way to do this is not to rush over and just breathe by the prophecy of Isaiah it's like to Pushpa and digest what Isaiah was prophesying and so he goes on then to say what what he's really quoting is Isaiah 40 and he wants he wants Theophilus to pause and to consider what's in that chapter Isaiah 40 and so it begins so so he writes that these

Gentile abusers are subjugating the people of God and then he quotes the prophecy of Isaiah which begins comfort yes

comfort my people so according to the covenant God's people have to be punished

according to the Covenant they have to be exiled out of the land they were full of adultery they were full of idolatry they were full of sinfulness they broke the Covenant the Covenant of the terms and conditions of the agreement said like Adam and Eve if you sin you cannot dwell in the land saw Adam and Eve sinned and they were exiled from the land Israel sinned and they were exiled from the land and when they were exiled they were subjugated and they suffered greatly and now Isaiah writes this prophecy which predicts John the Baptist coming and with that prediction is the comfort to Israel that that the prophecies all say that Israel will be restored and so the prophecy that that really that's him that that the prophecy of John the Baptist

embedded in that prophecy is the comfort to Israel comfort yes comfort my people I know it seems unbelievable but comfort them says your God this is coming from God he has not forgotten Israel and any ideology that says we can forget Israel we don't need to talk about Israel we can destroy Israel it's false because God has a marriage to Israel God Christ in Israel are married it's a covenant and even though Israel is faithless God is faithful God is faithful he will not break his covenant so he's going to restore Israel to that marriage agreement so that he can fulfill his faithful promise to Abraham and to David so speak comfort to



Jerusalem

even though Jerusalem is isn't he even  
yet to suffer greatly there's comfort  
speak comfort to Jerusalem and cry out  
to her that her warfare is ended that  
her iniquity noticed this her iniquity  
is pardoned the reason she doesn't have  
comfort today the reason she's suffering  
today it's because of her iniquity but  
tell her now that her iniquity is  
pardoned somehow God is God is  
initiating taking it upon himself to put  
in motion a process called the Passover  
to forgive Israel so that Israel can be  
brought back into the land so it's  
because of this Passover sacrifice that  
Israel can be restored and Israel can be  
comforted so tell her that her iniquity  
is pardoned for she has received from  
the Lord's hand double for all her sins  
according to the Covenant these were the  
terms and conditions and God is faithful  
he fulfills his word and so she has  
received this and yet there's the voice  
of one crying in the wilderness this is  
the context of John the Baptist ministry  
that the voice of one crying in the  
wilderness prepare the way of the Lord  
make straight in the desert a highway  
for our God may allow people to come to  
him let's just make it easy for them to  
get to him every Valley shall be exalted  
and every mountain and hill brought low  
so that it's easy to get to Zion and  
it's easy to get to Jerusalem and have  
access to the God of Israel the crooked  
places shall be made straight and the  
rough place is smooth the glory of the  
Lord shall be revealed and all flesh  
shall see it together so the the notion  
that Gentiles are a part of the salvific  
plan of God this isn't new this isn't  
something that Paul made up and so even  
though Paul is going to be on trial in

Rome this is what Luke wants the awfulness to understand that all of this was prophesied anciently and Christ came even though he came just to Israel the plan was always to be this perfect sacrifice to redeem Israel to graft Gentiles into Israel and to use that Israelite nation that new covenant nation that which we call the church to then open up salvation to the whole world that all ends of the earth shall see it together for the mouth of the Lord has spoken and it's impossible for him to lie what he says comes to pass the voice said cry out and he said what shall I cry all flesh is grass and all its loveliness is like the flower of the field and this is what the people of God are studying and no matter how powerful the rulers of this world are we're looking at this and saying hmm they're grass they're gonna have a few decades you know even you look at somebody like Fidel Castro who ruled with an iron fist for decades he outlives so many US presidents who tried to overthrow him but he stayed in power for decades but he's grabbed all flesh is grass and now he's dead and he's going to be resurrected and he's going to face the Lord Jesus Christ so all flesh is Christ it is is grass and all its loveliness is like the flower of the field so young looks really spectacular but then it wilts the grass withers the flower fades because the breath of the Lord blows upon it this is how powerful the Lord is surely the people are grass the grass withers the flower fades but the word of our God stands forever and this is what the people of God need to understand we need to be studying the scriptures and understanding of the scripture cannot be

broken the scripture cannot be broken  
because it's impossible for God to lie  
and everything that God says comes to  
pass on time exactly as he said it would  
come to pass and so comfort my people he  
says o Zion you who bring good news o  
Sion you who bring good news get up into  
the high mountain o Jerusalem you who  
bring good news  
lift up your voice with strength lift it  
up and do not be afraid there's no  
reason to fear  
lift it up with strength with boldness  
say to the cities of Judah behold your  
God so comfort Jerusalem say to the  
cities of Judah God is coming for you  
you've been faithless you've been a  
horrible wife  
in fact hosea says you're a harlot but  
God is faithful and he's going to  
restore you and there's a there's a  
mechanism that he's put in place that he  
can be faithful to his law and he can  
still forgive you and bring you back and  
so behold your God so this is this is  
the purpose of John the Baptist ministry  
is to proclaim the good news and to  
proclaim to Judah there God is coming  
behold the Lord God shall come with a  
strong hand he's coming and he's coming  
with a strong hand and his arm shall  
rule for him behold his reward is with  
him and his work before him he will feed  
his flock like a shepherd all of this is  
what's alluded to in John the Baptist  
ministry and this is what Theophilus  
needs to understand he will gather the  
Lambs with his arm and carry them in his  
bosom this is the love that God has for  
his people they think he's forgotten  
them he hasn't but he had to punish them  
they had to be exiled and now he's  
coming to restore them and gently lead  
those who are with young dropping down

to verse 15 behold the nation's and this again is what the awfulness needs to understand what we need to understand all of these nations all of this globalism is kind of it's kind of bizarre to watch the news around the world and borders are disappearing and there's this sort of this global nation all of these nations are as a drop in in a bucket and they're counted as the small dust of the scale so we shouldn't be impressed with the might of this world because it's nothing look he lifts up the Isles is a very little thing and Lebanon is not sufficient to burn nor its beasts sufficient for a burnt offering all nations before him are as nothing and they are counted by him less than nothing and worthless this is the context of John the Baptist ministry that Rome is in power Tiberius Caesar is in power but John the Baptist has begun his ministry and that means the nation's are worthless they're their power is coming to an end to whom then will you liken God or what likeness will you compare to him the workman molten image the Goldsmith overspreads it with gold and the silversmith casts silver chains whoever is too impoverished for such a contribution chooses a tree that will not rot so basically he seeks himself a skilful workman to prepare a garbed image a carved image that will not taught her basically they're all involved in idolatry however you look at it there they're serving the devil and there whether they're actually carving an image and worshiping that or looking at a man looking at a man and thinking that this man is is something great and we need to do whatever he says and you

know if he sleeps on his left side we  
need to sleep in our left side or if he  
snaps his finger like Tiberius Caesar we  
need to do whatever he says and and  
we've lost connection with God and we're  
worshiping the creation this is idolatry  
and this is what all the nations are  
consumed with and this is what Christ  
has come to to relieve mankind from  
first by redeeming Israel and then  
through Israel redeeming mankind and  
pulling mankind out of this idolatrous  
worship which is really worship of the  
devil

have you not known have you not heard  
has it not been told you from the  
beginning have you not understood from  
the foundations of the earth

it is he who sits above the circle of  
the earth you know every time I read  
this I find this amazing again we have  
this global spread of Islam close to 2  
billion adherents today and growing  
fastest-growing forced religion ideology  
in the world and 600 years after Luke  
wrote and thousands of years after eyes  
I wrote Mohammed was taught by gibreel  
whoever that demon was that the earth is  
flat and so he believed the earth was  
flat here thousands of years earlier  
Isiah understood as did joel that the  
earth is a sphere

he sits above the circle of the earth  
and its inhabitants are like  
grasshoppers let's not worry about men  
they're like grasshoppers who stretches  
out the heavens like a curtain and  
spreads them out like a tent to dwell in  
he brings the princes to nothing this  
again is the context of the Ministry of  
John the Baptist

announcing the entrance of the God of  
Israel he brings the princes to nothing  
he makes the judges of the earth useless

scarcely shall they be planted there  
like flowers there like grass but  
scarcely shall they be planted in in the  
scheme of things in in the in the  
timeline of eternity scarcely shall they  
be planted scarcely shall they be sown  
scarcely shall their stock take root in  
the earth when he will also blow on them  
and they will wither and the whirlwind  
will take them away like stubble this is  
the power of God and people don't  
understand the God we serve they want to  
see a God with Nimrod like power that  
that you know he just shows up and he's  
just so powerful he's got so much force  
that you you're so afraid of him you  
have to bow down and worship Him but  
that's not our God our God has all the  
power of the universe and he comes like  
a lamb and he allows himself to be  
brutally slaughtered because he's a God  
of love he's a God of love and he's a  
God of law and so it's important for him  
that the law be perfectly fulfilled and  
so even though he has all of this power  
the victory comes through his  
crucifixion which is just it's amazing  
it's amazing and we'll get more into  
that as we move through the gospel  
dropping down now to verse 25 to whom  
then will you liken me so sorry he'll  
blow on them they will wither and the  
whirlwind will take the  
away like the stubble to whom then will  
you liken me or to whom shall I be equal  
says the holy one have you not known  
have you not heard the everlasting God  
the Lord the creator of the ends of the  
earth neither faints nor is weary his  
understanding is unsearchable he gives  
power to the weak he gives power to the  
weak and to those who have no might he  
increases strength even the youths shall  
faint and be weary you see them full of

energy you know what even the youths shall faint and be weary and the young men shall utterly fail but those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength they shall mount up with wings like eagles they shall run and not be weary they shall walk and not faint the Word of God is so faithful and all of this will be fulfilled in time but there's a process that God is working out and we need to understand this process the wicked will not understand and they're gonna be running backwards and forward and feeling more and more powerful but the wise will understand the wise are gonna be looking at them and realizing that they're just grass they're just a flower this is their moment but they're going to cook they're going to be weary when God blows on them they're going to vanish and God is going to put the righteous in this new government this new kingdom on the earth coming back then to Luke this is the the context of the prophecy of John the Baptist then he said to the multitude so this is John the Baptist speaking now this is his ministry as the forerunner to the Lord then he said to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him brood of vipers Wow such strong language so so all these people he's baptizing people but then these other people come to him to be baptized and how does he respond brood of vipers who warned you to flee from the wrath to come so there's this wrath that's comes and to John the Baptist these people are a brood of vipers and he wants to know how did they know to try to escape this this wrath is coming now if you think John's language is strong Christ called them the exact same thing

serpents brood of vipers how can you escape the condemnation of Gehenna both and then in verse 13 says woe to you scribes and Pharisees hypocrites for you shut up the Kingdom of Heaven against men for you neither go in yourselves nor do you allow those who are entering to go in so this new government is coming and John is like you people don't understand you cannot be a part of this new government not with the attitudes that you currently have these attitudes that they had are the old attitudes they're the attitudes of the beast power they're the attitudes of the beast kingdom where it's all about subjugating your subjects even Christ's disciples when they heard that a kingdom was coming they were this is so ingrained that they thought that that's how they're going to rule as well and so John sees the heart of these people they're not repenting they love being in power they love being part of an extension of the Roman government and therefore an extension of of Satan so they they see this and or John sees this and he's like guys you need to repent if you're going to be a part of the kingdom that's coming and Christ basically saw the same thing in them back to Luke therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance and do not begin to say to yourselves we have Abraham as our Father so so yes they understood the Gospel message and they understood that the gospel the good news is the fulfillment of the promise to Abraham but he's warning them just because you're a descendant of Abraham don't assume that just being in the lineage of Abraham makes you a part of this new Kingdom it's not a kingdom just because you're an Israelite it's a kingdom



because you're a new covenant Israelite  
it's a it's you're a repentant Israelite  
you've accepted the grace of God and  
you've repented and so he says don't  
don't think to yourself that you you  
have Abraham as your father for I say to  
you that God is able to raise up  
children to Abraham from these stones in  
other words God is faithful God  
absolutely will fulfill his promise to  
Abraham but he doesn't need you to  
fulfill the promise don't don't think  
that God needs you more than you need  
him you need God God doesn't need you  
and so you can be wiped out according to  
your according to the terms and  
conditions of the Covenant agreement  
that doesn't handcuff God from  
fulfilling his promise he can ensure  
that there are descendants to Abraham  
and that his promise to Abraham is  
fulfilled

now that promise we see in Genesis 12  
that I will bless those who bless you  
and I will curse him who curses you and  
in you Abraham all the families of the  
earth shall be blessed not cursed  
blessed every family of the earth will  
be blessed through Abraham and that's  
the promise and so that's that's what  
they're looking at understanding that is  
is going to be fulfilled now he says  
here even though the ax is laid to the  
root of the trees and so you know you  
you can actually topple a tree with this  
just a small ax but just knowing how to  
use it

you can actually cause a tree to  
completely fall over and so he says here  
the axe is laid to the root of the trees  
therefore every tree which does not bear  
good fruit is cut down and thrown into  
the fire and Jesus Christ is going to  
say the exact same thing later and so

they are considered trees and there  
there's a there's fruit that's expected  
from them and and you can see this in  
Romans 11 where Paul says and if some of  
the branches were broken off  
that's the Israelites and you a Gentile  
being a wild olive tree were grafted in  
among them so you've been grafted into  
the Israelite olive tree and with them  
became a partaker of the root and  
fatness of the tree so so that the root  
and fatness is really the foundation of  
the promises to Israel do not boast  
against the branches but if you do boast  
remember that you do not support the  
root but the root supports you so Israel  
supports Gentiles Gentiles don't support  
Israel but here John is warning them  
that even though you're in the root now  
what's happened is the axe is laid to  
the root and so every part of the tree  
is expected to bear good fruit and if  
the whole tree is corrupt then it's  
going to be chopped down at the root and  
God will graft in to the root trees that  
will and branches that will bear fruit  
and notice when when Christ came with  
this woman that was looking for his  
ministry wanting blessing from him he  
didn't he just ignored her and his  
disciples came to him urgently wanted  
her daughter to be healed but he  
answered and said I was not sent except  
to the lost sheep of the house of Israel  
so so Christ ministry in John's ministry  
was to Israel to get Israel right later  
it's going to be opened up so that the  
Gentiles can be grafted in but at this  
stage right now the call to repentance  
is to Israel and if they don't repent  
they'll be cut off and then the Gentiles  
will be grafted in so so God is able to  
raise up children to Abraham and he  
doesn't need them they need to repent in

order to stay in this covenant promise so the people ask John saying what shall we do then he answered and said to them he who has two tunics he says let him give to him who has none and he who has food let him do likewise in other words repent so stop being selfish start to act in

loving manner start to consider the welfare of your neighbor then tax collectors also came to be baptized and sent in teacher what shall we do and he said to them don't collect more than what is appointed for you so the way the tax collection system worked at this time was Rome wanted a certain amount of tax so let's say to them you know the poll tax to so I'm expected to go to a certain household and let's say I'm to get five hundred dollars from them well I might go to them and tell them they owe \$1,000 and they might cry and complain and they can't pay that and I forced I get out of them \$800 well I just have to give the \$500 to Rome and that extra \$300 that I was able to extort from them that's mine and so these tax collectors could become very very rich by just squeezing people for more tax even than they should pay to Rome and so he's saying don't do that collect no more than what is appointed for you likewise the soldiers asked him saying so everybody's panicking and wanting to know from his powerful preaching what they can do to prepare for this Kingdom that's coming and and the soldier said you know what shall we do and he said to them do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely and be content with your wages

now as the people were in expectation so they're realizing that this kingdom is coming and they're all in expectation he

they were then wondering they reasoned in their hearts about John so they're seeing this powerful preacher preaching the kingdom of God preaching about the Messiah they began to wonder if John the Baptist was the Messiah whether he was the Christ John picked that up and he answers saying to all I indeed baptize you with water but one mightier than I is coming whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire so again he understood the prophecies that yep he's gonna baptize you with the Holy Spirit he's also gonna baptize you with fire and that is speaking to the prophecy of Malachi that says behold I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me meet God and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple even the messenger of the Covenant in whom you delight behold he is coming says the Lord of hosts so yes great news he's coming but who can endure the day of his coming and who can stand when he appears for he is like a refiners fire and like the launderers soap so he's gonna purify them he will sit as a refiner and as a purifier of silver he will purify the sons of Levi and purge them as gold and silver that they may offer to the Lord and offering in righteousness so this is not going to be pretty yes he's coming yes he's coming to Israel yes he's gonna baptize him with the Holy Spirit but they also need to be baptized with fire and that's just part of this purification process so that they can be worthy to sit in his kingdom and help him rule without any ego without any selfishness with complete selfless love for the subjects at that time the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be

pleasant to the Lord as in the days of old as in the former years and then he goes on to say his winnowing fan is in his hand so winning when a fan is something that they would use to separate the chaff from the wheat so you would use this fan to throw the harvest in the air the wind would blow the chaff away and you would be able to then keep the the valuable part the wheat his winnowing fan is in his hand and he will thoroughly clean out his threshing floor and gather the wheat into his barn but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire so this is not a it's not a pleasant process unfortunately and remember when in Luke 2 and Simeon prophesied Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother behold this child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel in Israel and for a sign which will be spoken against so this is the chaff being separated from the wheat Christ is going to be a polarizing figure in Israel and the brood of vipers will be identified and separated and burned and the wheat will be identified and refined and purified and then back to Luke 3 and with many other exhortations John preached to the people so he was just constantly preaching this this coming King and this coming kingdom and had to repent and get your act together and to turn the hearts of the children to their fathers in the hearts of the fathers to their children and just remove iniquity from Israel in order to prepare the way for the Lord so with many other exhortations he preached the people but Herod the Tetrarch being rebuked by him concerning Herodias his brother Philips wife so he was involved in this adulterous affair and for all

the evils which heretic done so so John was bold he didn't a pussyfoot around anybody he just spoke the truth and he spoke it to those in power and so he also added this above all he shot John up in prison so again if we think about what was its name there George Orwell who writes who wrote 1984 this man understood human nature so well in society and where it's heading and he says the further society drifts from the truth the more it will hate those who speak it and so John spoke the truth Christ spoke the truth Christians must speak the truth and Christ told us we will be hated by many but that's ok we love them we pray for them we only want the best for everybody now so he says here when all the people were baptized so he done was thorough all the people were baptized it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized so Jesus this is important and while he prayed the heaven was open so Jesus Christ I just miss of Israel he is fulfilling Israel's righteousness and so it's important that he be baptized to be this perfect representation of Israel and and in that way fulfill the the terms and conditions of the Covenant agreement on the behalf on behalf of Israel and now Luke writes that Jesus was also baptized and while he prayed the heaven was opened and so the heavens connection now between Earth and heaven while he prayed mark didn't write that mark says immediately coming up from the water he saw the heavens parting and the spirit descending upon him like a dove Luke says slow down it's important the awfulest that you understand that Christ was a praying man and he got his power and his strength from his relationship with the father

and while he prayed that's when the heaven no heaven is opened and the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon him and a voice came from heaven which said you are my beloved son in you I am well pleased so so Christ is the son of God and the father announced that at his baptism while he prayed and again that's gonna hearken to the relationship that Abraham had with Isaac that Isaac was the beloved son of Abraham and yet he was asked to sacrifice him but God said that he spared him and said the Lord will provide his own offering and Christ is fulfilling that offering and also we would see here in Isaiah that this spirit coming upon him was actually prophesied in Isaiah that the Spirit of the Lord will rest upon him the spirit of wisdom and understanding the spirit of counsel and might the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord and again in Isaiah 42 behold my servant whom I uphold my elect one in whom my soul delights I have put my spirit upon him he will bring forth justice to the Gentiles so again Luke is making it clear having this sort of global view that the Gentiles were always a part of the plan of God and so Luke is very very specific to let Theophilus understand this is an Israelite plan this is all about Israel but the Gentiles are included and again in Psalms Psalm 2:7 where he declares that you are my son today I have begotten you so back to Luke as we try to wrap up here the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form upon him and he said that you are my beloved son notice then then an exodus the Lord said Israel is my son my firstborn and so it's important for us to understand that when Christ comes in human form he's

coming to fulfill Israel he is the faithful Israelite and so this is why as the sinless Israelite he can now fulfill the terms and conditions of the Covenant agreement he can become the propitiation for Israel and this is now this is the mechanism through which Israel can now come back into the land and so now we can speak comfort to Jerusalem because the perfect Israelite has fulfilled the terms and conditions of the law and not only that he has been sacrificed for the forgiveness of Israel so Israel can now come back into the land now Jesus himself began his ministry at about thirty years of age so so this is where Mark began with the ministry with the Ministry of John the Baptist and then the Ministry of Christ now I've having covered the Ministry of John the Baptist Luke now turns his attention to the Ministry of Christ and this is where Matthew began with the the lineage of Christ but Luke tells it very differently he says here now Jesus himself began his ministry at about thirty years of age being as was supposed the son of Joseph and then he goes through the whole lineage of Christ which I won't go through it now in detail just for want of time but what's critical in this lineage is that Christ is able to trace his lineage through Joseph back to King David and whether it's through Joseph or through Mary both lines go back to King David he is the Messiah he is going to sit on his Father's throne so he is the son of David the Messiah The Anointed One and that David traces his lineage back to Abraham so the Covenant agreement with Abraham is fulfilled in Christ and then Abraham back to Noah back to Adam so he you know Luke ends his



lineage here he begins at saying as was supposed the Son of God but then he ends it tracing it all the way back to Adam so Matthew doesn't do this Matthew only goes back to Abraham because Matthew is speaking to an Israelite audience

Luke is supporting the Ministry of Paul which is going to a global audience and so he needs Theophilus to understand that the global audience was always in view always in view and so Luke traces Christ's lineage all the way back to Adam who was the son of God but notice he began he began this lineage by saying that Christ in fact in verse 22 is the son of God Christ is the son of God now it was supposed that he was the son of Joseph and that Joseph goes all the way back to Adam the son of God so Adam was the son of God and Christ is the son of God but we see Paul writing in Corinthians and so it is written the first man Adam became a living being the last Adam became a life-giving spirit and so it's important for us to understand here that Christ is the true son of God Adam was the failure Adam failed and so Christ comes as the successful son of God so critical that we understand through Luke's writing that Christ is the is going to sit on the throne of David and and and fulfill the promises that the Davidic promises which by the way I wonder I want to offer you my co pastor my colleague pastor Murray Palmateer is two-thirds the way through a wonderful series on the throne of David and he's going into Samuel and kings and just really helping us understand the context of the throne of David and what I'd like you to do if you understand what he is bringing out in his Bible study on the throne of

David and you you put that as context to the gospel you can never be deceived so if you will email me at Adrienne at CGI Burlington org I will send you the links for this wonderful study on the throne of David and and the other thing that I'll ask you to do is go to our Facebook page facebook.com the Church of God International and like and share these Bible studies we want to get this Gospel message out there as as George Orwell said during times of universal deceit and we know that the devil is the deceiver of all nations telling the truth becomes a revolutionary act and so we're asking you to to support us in this ministry and get the word out and you can do that if you'll just go to our Facebook page and like and share these Bible studies and so again I'll just remind you Adrienne at CGI Burlington dot org and I'll send you the Bible studies that we're doing that pastor Marie Palmateer is doing on the throne of David and so that is the end of chapter three and now we're gonna get into chapter four that's what we'll do next week so looking forward to joining you next week I hope you've enjoyed the study I'll be on the chat now and and I'm a Facebook page as well and god bless you Jesus Christ is Lord Jesus Christ is king Jesus Christ is our Savior and we look forward to his return