



The ox is the symbol for the gospel of Luke

15b. Luke 3:1–4:13

Preparation for Jesus' Ministry

The Baptism of Jesus

Preparation for Ministry

- Seemingly careful historical dating (3:1–2a)
 - “Now in **the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar**, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judaea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea and of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias the tetrarch of Abilene, Annas and Caiaphas being the high priests . . .”
 - *When did Tiberius' reign begin? AD 4 when he received most of the powers of Augustus? AD 13 when these powers were renewed? AD 14 when Augustus died?*
- John the Baptist and his mission (3:2b–20)
 - The New Translation makes significant additions regarding the mission of the Savior (see JST Luke 3:5–9): take away sins, bring salvation to Gentiles, bring to pass the resurrection, hold the keys until the end, administer justice . . .
 - Additional, detailed instructions to tax collectors and soldiers, **illustrating Luke's interest in commoners and marginalized figures**
- Jesus' baptism (3:21–22)
 - **Holy Ghost foreshadows role in the Church at Pentecost in Acts 2**
 - Holy Ghost descends “**in bodily shape**” and “**like a dove**”
 - Does “**like a dove**” (*hos peristeran*) refers to the **shape** or to the **manner of descent**?
 - **Joseph Smith taught that “the sign of the dove” represented the Holy Ghost's presence** (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, 275-276*)
 - **An “anointing” of the spirit**

Luke's Genealogy of Jesus (3:23–38)

Preparation for Ministry

- Placed *after* ministry begins
 - reflects Moses, see Exodus 6:14–26
- **Ascending order**, rather than descending, as in Matthew
- Begins with Joseph the son of Eli (Heli)
 - Matthew had Joseph as the son of Jacob (Matt 1:16)
 - Emphasizes **actual genealogy** rather than legal line
 - Could Joseph be Eli's son-in-law?
 - The Greek does not suggest this, but **if so, this would be Mary's lineage**
- **All the way to Adam**, stresses inclusion of all humanity, not just Israel
 - Matthew's emphasis was "son of David"
 - "... the son of Adam, **the son of God.**" (3:38)

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Temptation (4:1–14)

Preparation for Ministry

- Led by the spirit, cf. JST
- **Spirit is prime mover Luke-Acts**

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