

# Questions for Gospel Harmony #11

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Matthew 2.19-23 & Luke 2.39

1. List one fact learned from Luke's account that is not included in Matthew's. List one fact learned from Matthew's account that is not included in Luke's.
2. How did Joseph learn of the death of Herod? (Matthew 2.19-21)
3. Why was Joseph afraid to return to Judea? (Matthew 2.22)
4. Why did Joseph choose to move his family to Nazareth? (Matthew 2.23 and Luke 2.39)
5. Where do "the prophets" say, "He shall be called a Nazarene"? What does this prophecy mean? (Matthew 2.23)

# Questions for Gospel Harmony #12

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Luke 2.40-52

1. How does Luke summarize the childhood of Jesus? (Verse 40)

**Special Question:** Based on the information provided, should we suppose that Jesus was all knowing and all-powerful as an infant and young child?

2. Where did Jesus' family go, and why? What happened while they were there? (Verses 41-43)
3. How long did they travel before realizing Jesus was not with them? How long did they search for Him? Where did they find Him, and what was He doing? (Verses 44-47)
4. Explain the following phrases (Verses 48-50):
  - Why did you seek me?
  - I must be about my Father's business
5. What was Jesus' relationship to Mary and Joseph after this incident? In what ways did Jesus "increase"? (Verses 51-52)

# Questions for Gospel Harmony #13

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Matthew 3.1-12; Mark 1.1-8; Luke 3.1-18

1. How does Mark begin his gospel? (Mark 1.1-4) What is the significance of the historical information given by Luke? (Luke 3.1-2)
2. What did John preach? What prophecy did John fulfill in his preaching? What was John's baptism for? (Matthew 3.1-3; Mark 1.2-4; Luke 3.3-6)
3. How does the Bible describe John's appearance and lifestyle, and what is the significance of that? Where was John baptizing, and who came to be baptized by Him? (Matthew 3.4-7; Mark 1.5-6; Luke 3.7)
4. What did John say to the Pharisees? Explain the phrases: "fruits worthy of repentance", "God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones", and "even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees". (Matthew 3.7-10; Luke 3.7-9)
5. What did John say to the people, tax collectors, and soldiers? Explain each of his admonitions. What does it mean, "the people were in expectation"? (Luke 3.10-15)
6. How does John describe, "the One coming" after him? With what would He baptize? How does He use His winnowing fan? (Matthew 3.11-12; Mark 1.7-8; Luke 3.16-18)

**Special Question:** Based on the ways in which the word fire is used in Matthew 3.10-12 and Luke 3.9-17, should we conclude that baptism with fire is a positive thing, or a negative thing?

## Matthew 3.1-12; Mark 1.1-8; Luke 3.1-18

**The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God:** Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, while Annas and Caiaphas were high priests, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah - And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of [the Prophets] Isaiah the prophet, saying: Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You. The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD; 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 shall see the salvation of God.' " Now John himself was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locust and wild honey. Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them [to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him], "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not think [do not begin] to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. And even now the ax 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. So the people asked him, saying, "What shall we do then?" He answered and said to them, "He who has two tunics, let him give to him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise." Then tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Collect no more than what is appointed for you." Likewise the soldiers asked him, saying, "And what shall we do?" So he said to them, "Do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely, and be content with your wages." Now as the people were in expectation, and all reasoned in their hearts about John, whether he was the Christ or not, John answered, saying to all [he preached] I indeed baptize [baptized] you with water unto repentance but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry [whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose]. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn [His barn]; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." And with many other exhortations he preached to the people.

# Questions for Gospel Harmony #14

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Matthew 3.13-17; Mark 1.9-11; Luke 3.21-23

1. From whence came Jesus and where did He go to be baptized by John? (Matthew 3.13; Mark 1.9)
2. Why did John try “to prevent Jesus”? Explain the statement: “Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” (Matthew 3.14-15)
3. What did Jesus do immediately after he was baptized? (Matthew 3.16; Mark 1.10; Luke 3.21)
4. What did the heavens do? What did the Spirit of God do? What did the voice from heaven say? (Matthew 3.16-17; Mark 1.10-11; Luke 3.21-22)
5. How old was Jesus when he began His ministry? (Luke 3.23)

## Matthew 3.13-17; Mark 1.9-11; Luke 3.21-23

Then, [it came to pass in those days that] Jesus came from [Nazareth of] Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him [and was baptized by John in the Jordan]. And John tried to prevent Him, saying, “I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?” But Jesus answered and said to him, “Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he allowed Him. When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and [when He had been baptized] while He prayed, Jesus came up immediately from the water, and behold, He saw the heavens parting [the heavens were opened to Him] and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him [and the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him]. And suddenly a voice came from heaven [which] saying, [said], “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased.” Now Jesus Himself began His ministry at about thirty years of age.

# Questions for Gospel Harmony #15

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Matthew 4.1-11; Mark 1.12-13; Luke 4.1-13

1. How long after Jesus' baptism did He go up into the wilderness? What compelled Jesus to go there? What was the purpose of His going? (Matthew 4.1; Mark 1.12; Luke 4.1-2)
2. How long did Jesus fast? What was His condition afterward? How did the Devil tempt Him? What was Jesus' reply? (Matthew 4.2-4; Luke 4.2-4)
3. Where did the Devil take Jesus? What was the temptation and how did the Devil try to convince Jesus? How did Jesus respond? (Matthew 4.5-7; Luke 4.9-12)
4. On what basis did the Devil offer Jesus "authority" over "all the kingdoms of the world"? What does Satan ask of Jesus? How does Jesus respond to the temptation? (Matthew 4.8-10; Luke 4.5-8)
5. What happened at the end of the temptation? (Matthew 4.11; Mark 1.13; Luke 4.13)

**Special Question:** Luke and Matthew record the temptations in different sequence. What might be the reason for this difference?

## Matthew 4.1-11; Mark 1.12-13; Luke 4.1-13

Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and immediately the Spirit drove Him, then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And He was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, being tempted for forty days by Satan; the devil: and was with the wild beasts. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended [And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.] Now when the tempter came to Him [the devil said to Him], "If You are the Son of God, command this stone [these stones] to become bread." But He [Jesus] answered and said [saying], "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took Him up into the holy city [he led Him to Jerusalem], set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, 'If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "It is written again [it has been said], 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'" Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory [in a moment of time]. And the devil said to Him, "All [these things:] this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours." Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'" Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time; and the angels [came and] ministered to Him.

# Questions for Gospel Harmony #16

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John 1.19-34

1. This section of scripture is called “the testimony of John” (verse 19). What did this testimony concern? Who did the Jews think John might be? How did John respond to their inquiries? (Verses 19-23)
  
2. To which Jewish sect did the questioners belong? Why would they suppose that John’s baptizing meant he was the Christ, or the Prophet, or Elijah? (Verses 24-25)

Special Question: What Jewish Sects existed during the earthly ministry of Jesus? Where did they come from? What did they believe? Which sects are mentioned in the scripture? How did they interact with Jesus?

3. Where was John baptizing? (Verses 26-28)
  
4. Explain the following phrases and statements: (Verses 29-31)
  - The Lamb of God
  - The sin of the world
  - After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me
  - I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water
  
5. How would the Messiah be identified to John? Who told John what to look for? What did John say about Jesus? (Verses 32-34)





# Questions for Gospel Harmony #18

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John 2.1-12

1. Where was this wedding? Why was Jesus present? What crisis happened while Jesus was there? Why did Mary report the problem to Jesus? (Verses 1-3)
2. What does Jesus mean when He says: "My hour has not yet come"? What does Mary say to the servants? (Verses 4-5)
3. Explain the phrase: "according to the manner of purification of the Jews". How many total gallons would these six water pots hold? How full were they? (Verses 6-7)
4. What did the water become? How did this happen? What did the master of the feast say after he tasted the wine? (Verses 8-10)

Special Question: Was the wine Jesus made on this occasion alcoholic or non-alcoholic? What clues can we draw from the text to help us answer this question?

5. Explain the phrases: "the beginning of signs" and "manifested His glory." What is the importance of the word "sign" being used to describe this miracle? What did the disciples do after witnessing this miracle? Where did Jesus go afterward and how long did He stay there? (Verses 11-12)

# Questions for Gospel Harmony #19

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John 2.13-25

1. Explain the phrase “The Passover of the Jews.” What sort of business were “those who sold sheep and oxen and the money changers” doing? (Verses 13-14)
  
2. What did Jesus do to the sellers and moneychangers, the sheep and oxen, and the money and tables? What did Jesus say? What scripture did this incident bring to mind for the disciples? (Verses 15-17)
  
3. Why did the Jews ask Jesus for a sign on this occasion? What did Jesus mean by “this temple”? What does John mean when he says, “they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said”? (Verses 18-22)
  
4. What did the water become? How did this happen? What did the master of the feast say after he tasted the wine? (Verses 8-10)
  
5. Explain the following phrases (Verses 23-25):
  - Many believed in His name
  - Jesus did not commit Himself to them
  - He knew all men, and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man

# Questions for Gospel Harmony #20 – Part 1

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John 3.1-8

1. Who was Nicodemus? Why did he come to Jesus by night? What did he and his associates know about Jesus and how did they know it? (Verses 1-2)
2. What must a man do to “see the Kingdom of God”? What does it mean to “see the Kingdom of God”? How else can the phrase “born again” be translated? Which translation better captures the meaning in this context? Why would Jesus respond to Nicodemus’ statement with this declaration? (Verses 3-4)
3. How does Jesus answer Nicodemus’ question (from the previous verse)? What does it mean to be “born of water and the Spirit?” Explain the statement: “That which is born of flesh is flesh and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.” (Verses 5-6)
4. Is what Jesus says here an analogy (what being born of the Spirit is like) or an explanation (how someone is born of the Spirit)? What do the Greek words for “wind” and “spirit” have in common, and how does that support your conclusion on the meaning of these verses? (Verses 7-8)

# Questions for Gospel Harmony #20 – Part 2

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John 3.9-21

1. Why is Jesus surprised that Nicodemus does not understand Him? What does Jesus mean when he says, “You do not receive Our witness”? Explain the question: “If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?” (Verses 9-12)

Special Question: There is some controversy over who is speaking the words of verses 13-21. Who are the two possibilities? Which one do you think is right and why?

2. Explain the phrase: “No one had ascended into heaven, but He who came down from heaven.” To which Old Testament story does verses 14-15 refer? How would the “Son of Man be lifted up”? (Verses 13-15)
3. What did the love of God for the World motivate Him to do, and what is the consequence? (Verse 16)
4. What does the speaker say is **not** the reason God sent His Son into the world? In what sense is the one “who does not believe” “condemned already”? Who loves darkness, and why? Who comes to the light, and why? (Verses 17-21)