



Gospel Doctrine Sunday School Lesson

Volume 3, Issue 1

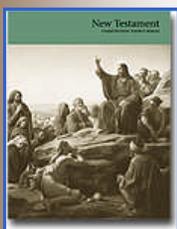
January 7, 2007

Are You:

- Preparing for Your Sunday School and Priesthood/Relief Society Lessons?
- Getting Off to a Good Start Spiritually This Year?

Today's Scriptures

Isaiah 61: 1-3; JST,
 Luke 3: 4-11; John 1: 1-14; 20-31



Next Week:

Lesson 2:

“My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord”
 Luke 1; Matthew 1

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Lesson 1:

“That Ye Might Believe That Jesus is the Christ”

Today's Word:
Testimony—from Latin word *testis* (also *martyr* in Greek), meaning evidence, proof or statement of a witness



Questions to Ponder

- How has Jesus fulfilled the prophecies as described in Isaiah 61:1-2?
- What does it mean to believe that ‘Jesus is the Christ’?
- How has the Savior given you life and light?

President Thomas S. Monson:

“As with the Master, Jesus Christ, so with the servant, John—precious little is

recorded of their years of youth. A single sentence contains all that we know of John’s history for a space of 30 years—the entire period which elapsed between his birth and his walk into the wilderness to commence his public ministry: ‘The child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel.’

“His dress was that of the old prophets—a garment woven of camel’s hair. His food was such as the desert afforded—locusts and wild honey. His message was brief. He preached faith, repentance, baptism by immersion, and the bestowal of the Holy Ghost by an authority greater than possessed by himself.

“‘I am not the Christ,’ he told his band of faithful disciples, ‘but ... I am sent before him.’ ‘I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh.’ ‘He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire.’

“Then there transpired the climactic scene of John’s mission—the baptism of Christ. Jesus came down from Galilee expressly ‘to be baptized’ by John. Humbled of heart and contrite in spirit, John pleaded, ‘I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?’ The Master’s reply: ‘It becometh us to fulfil all righteousness.’

‘And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

‘And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.’

“John’s testimony that Jesus was the Redeemer of the world was declared boldly. Without fear, and with courage, John taught, ‘Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.’

“(“Preparing the Way,” *Ensign*, Feb. 2002, 2).