

# Bereans Bible Institute

## Module VI – The Life of Christ

### Lesson 2 – John the Baptist (Part 1)

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#### I. John's miraculous birth

A. John's miraculous birth (Luke 1:5-25, 57-80)

B. John the Baptist conceived 6 months before Jesus – Luke 1:36

1. John's father, Zacharias, was a priest of the course of Abijah, the 8<sup>th</sup> of 24 – 1 Chron. 24:10.

a. The courses served one week every 6 months, beginning on Nissan 1 (March-April) with the first course.

b. All courses were required to serve during the week of Passover & Tabernacles.

c. The course of Abijah served the 9<sup>th</sup> week after the 1<sup>st</sup> full week in Nisan, first week in June. John's birth announced to Zecharias in the Temple – Luke 1:5-25

d. Elizabeth was in her 6<sup>th</sup> month by mid-December – Luke 1:26 & 36

2. John was born about the time of Passover

#### II. Jesus conceived on Hanukkah

A. Jesus was born w/sun in Virgo, the moon under her feet – Rosh Hashanah (Rev. 12:1-5) Sept. 12, 3BC

B. Normal human gestation is 38 weeks (266 days) = Jesus' conception on Dec. 19, 4 BC (4<sup>th</sup> day of Hanukkah, which began on Dec. 16 in 4 BC).

C. The fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy – Isaiah 9:6-7; Luke 1:26-33

#### III. Old Testament Prophecies of John the Baptist

A. Isaiah 40:3-8; Matt. 3:1-3

B. Mal. 3:1; Matt. 11:10

#### IV. John begins his ministry (Luke 3:1-18)

A. Tiberius Caesar, Co-ruler w/Augustus from AD 12, Sole ruler from AD 14 – AD 37.

B. 15<sup>th</sup> year AD 26

C. John began his ministry in Nisan (April) AD 26

D. The "Word of the Lord" came to John (Luke 3:2)

E. John preaches repentance & baptizes (Luke 3:7-18)