

***He Must Increase (John 3:22-36)***

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*(Fourth of July Message)*

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**INTRODUCTION**

**BACKGROUND (See map on back page)**

Jesus went to Jerusalem briefly for Passover (John 2:13–3:21)

Jesus ministered briefly in the Judean countryside, while John the Baptist ministered in Aenon (John 3:22–4:2)

Jesus had larger crowds than John the Baptist

Jesus ministered briefly in Sychar in Samaria on His way to Galilee (4:3-43)

He ministered (long term) in Galilee, starting in Cana (4:43ff)

**EXPOSITION**

**3:22–24** Jesus ministers near John, before John was jailed

**3:25–26** Questions over Jesus' growing popularity

**3:27–29** John rejoices at the growth of Jesus' ministry

**3:30–31** Christ is supposed to overshadow John

**3:32–34** Many reject Christ's testimony of what He has seen with God; those who believe Him agree with God

**3:35–36** The Father put all into Christ's hands, so unbelievers lack everlasting life and experience God's present wrath

**CONCLUSION**

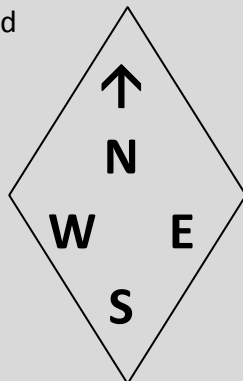
Galilee was Jesus' starting point.

A. He went to Jerusalem for a week.

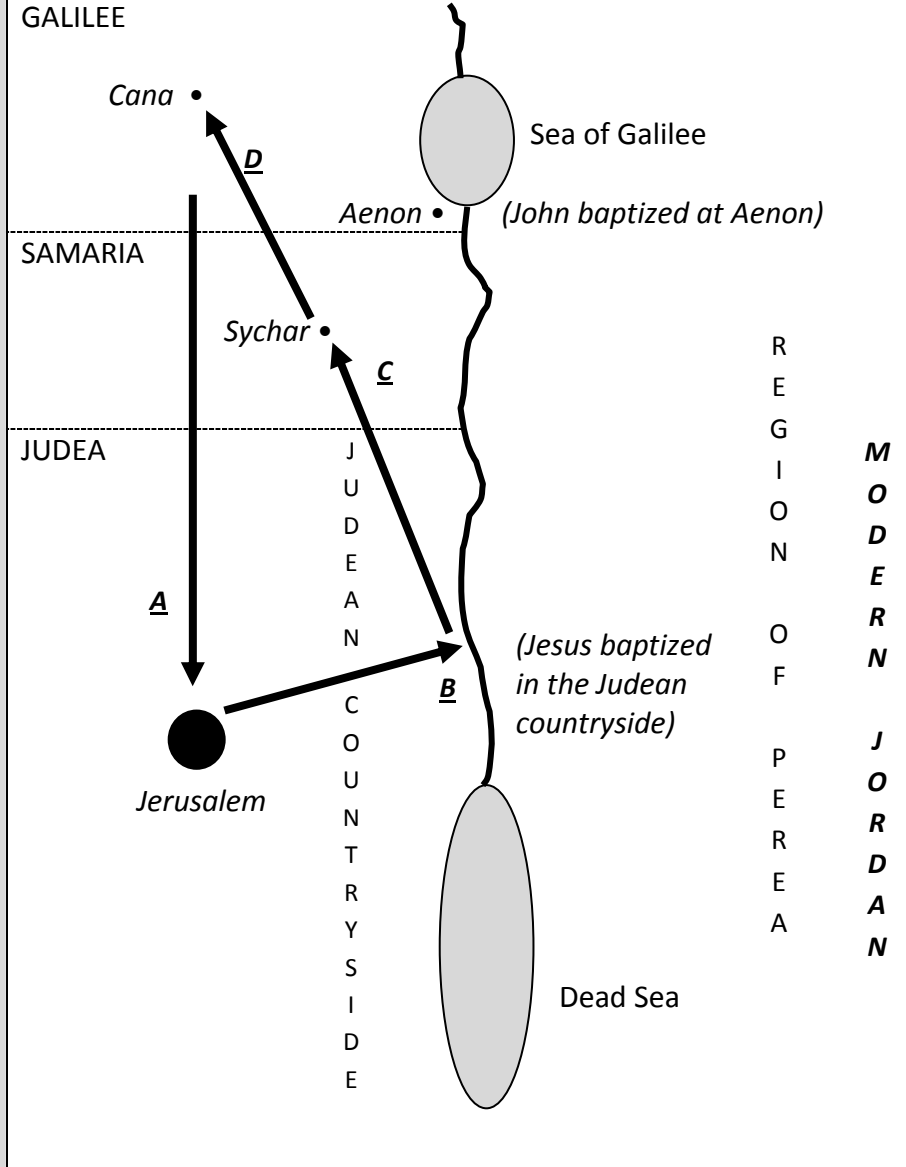
B. He went to rural Judea (apparently along the Jordan River) and baptized huge numbers.

C. He went to Sychar in Samaria.

D. He returned to Cana of Galilee.



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Jesus mainly stayed in Galilee. He usually only spent one week in Jerusalem at Passover (spring); one at Pentecost (summer); one at Booths (fall). He was in Jerusalem one week (Jn 2:13–3:21). Cf. Jn 2:13 and 2:23. (Jn 3:1-21 happened during that week in Jerusalem).

In Jn 3:22 Jesus left Jerusalem and went into the Judean countryside (rural Judea). While there He (through His disciples) made and baptized more disciples (Jn 4:1-2) than John the Baptist. Meanwhile, John was baptizing small numbers of people at Aenon ("Springs") in Galilee (John 3:23).

Four months before wheat harvest (Jn , Jesus knew that the Pharisees knew His ministry was much larger than John's, He went to Sychar in Samaria (John 4:1-5). After staying there two days, He went to Galilee (John 4:43 and 46).

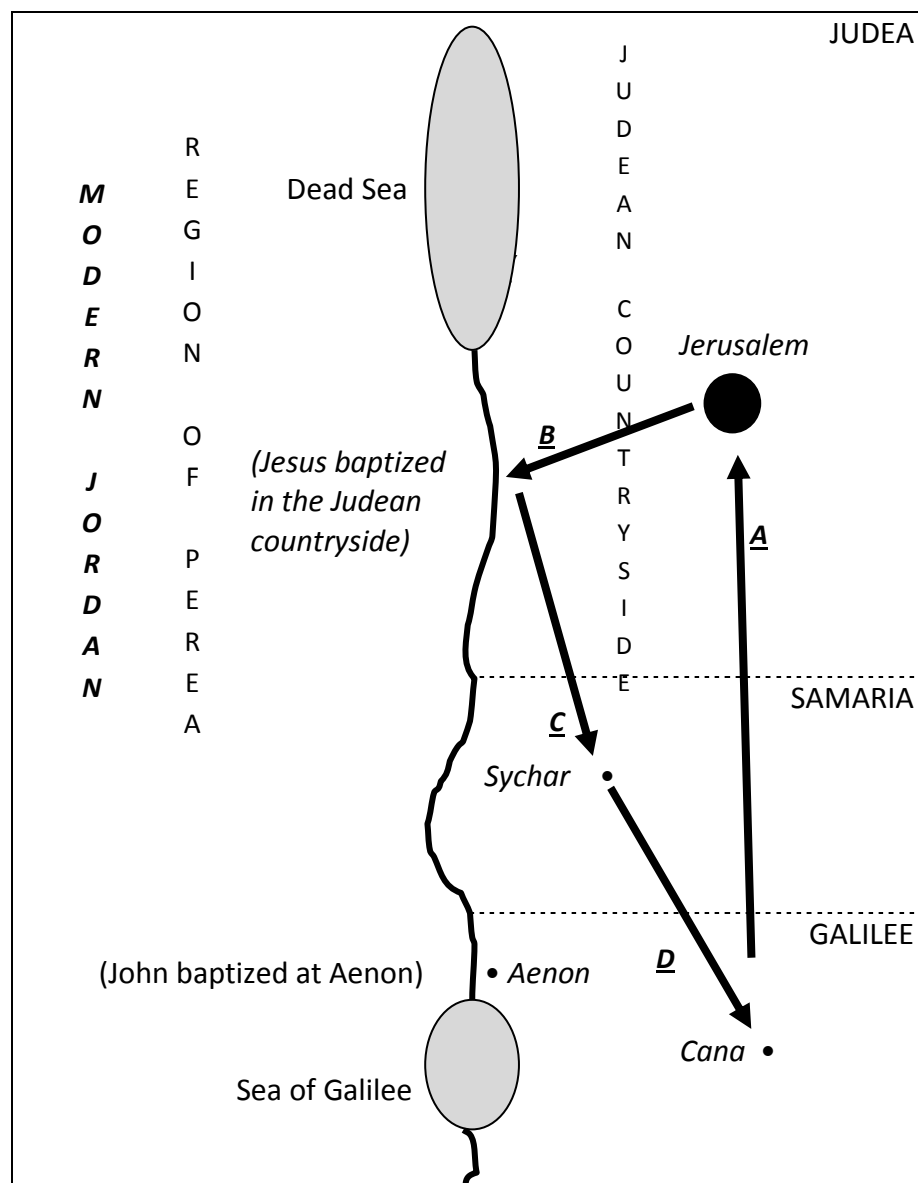
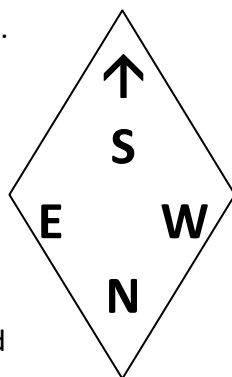
Galilee was Jesus' starting point.

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B. He went to rural Judea (apparently along the Jordan River) and baptized huge numbers.

C. He went to Sychar in Samaria.

D. He returned to Cana of Galilee.



Jesus spent most of His ministry in Galilee. He normally only spent one week in Jerusalem at Passover (spring); one week at Pentecost (summer); one week at Tabernacles (fall). He spent one week in Jerusalem (John 2:13–3:21). Cf. John 2:13 and 2:23. (John 3:1-21 happened during that week in Jerusalem).

In John 3:22 Jesus left Jerusalem and went into the Judean countryside (rural Judea). While there He (through His disciples) made and baptized more disciples (John 4:1-2) than John the Baptist. Meanwhile, John was baptizing small numbers of people at Aenon ("Springs") in Galilee (John 3:23).

When Jesus knew that the Pharisees knew His ministry was much larger than John's, He left Judea and went to Sychar in Samaria (John 4:1-5). After staying there two days, He went to Galilee (John 4:43 and 46).