

VISION FOR THE WORD OF GOD
LUKE/ACTS

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Who was Luke?

Gentile who was well educated and believed by many to be a physician

Author of two major New Testament books (Luke 1: 1-4; Acts 1: 1-2)

Companion and understudy of Paul in the same way that Mark was the mentee of Peter
(Acts 16: 10-16; 20: 1-16; 27: 27-28: 16; II Timothy 4: 9-11)

Structure of the Gospel

Luke 1: 1-4, Prologue

Luke 1: 5-2: 52, The Infancy Narrative

Luke 3: 1-4: 13, Preparation for the Ministry of Jesus

Luke 4: 14-9: 50, The Ministry in Galilee

Luke 9: 51-19: 27, The Journey to Jerusalem

Luke 19: 28-21: 38, The Ministry in Jerusalem

Luke 22:1-24: 53, The Passion and Resurrection Narratives

Major themes in Luke

Universality of salvation

Luke's genealogy (Luke 3: 23-38) and Matthew's genealogy (Matthew 1: 1-17)

Word "salvation" is absent from Matthew and Mark, and occurs only once in John

Luke uses word "salvation" or "to save" six in the Gospel and another seven times in Acts

He uses the word "Savior" twice in the Gospel and two more times in Acts

In Jesus, the time for salvation has dawned

Luke uses the word "now" 14 times (Matthew 4 times; Mark 3 times).

He uses the word "today" 11 times (Matthew 8 times; Mark 1 time)

Concern for the poor

He came to preach the gospel to the poor (Luke 4: 18)

Compare Matthew 3: 5 with Luke 6: 20

Shepherds to whom angels came were from the poor class

Dedication offering of Jesus was one given by the poor (Leviticus 12: 8; Luke 2: 22-24)

Advocate for poor (Luke 1:53; 6:30; 14: 11-13, 21; 16: 19-31)

Redemption of the disreputable

Feast Matthew gave for sinners (Luke 5: 30)

Redemption of Prodigal son (Luke 15: 11-32)

Conversion of Zacchaeus (Luke 19: 1-10)

Work of the Holy Spirit

Prophecy that John the Baptist would be filled with Holy Spirit

Both Elizabeth and Zechariah were filled with the Holy Spirit

The Spirit came upon Simeon when he beheld Jesus in temple (2: 25-27)

When the Lord was baptized the Holy Spirit came upon him as a dove
Spirit led him into the wilderness to be tempted

After temptation, he returned in the power of the Spirit

Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit (10: 21)

The Holy Spirit would give his followers the words to say (12:12)

Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit the gravest of sins (12:10)

Promise of the Holy Spirit after the Lord's resurrection (24:49)

The Holy Spirit works throughout the Book of Acts, beginning with the descent in Acts 2

A Praying Jesus

Recording of Jesus' prayers (3: 21; 5:16; 6: 12; 9: 18, 28; 10: 21; 11: 1; 22: 41; 23: 46)

Seven of these are in Luke alone and shows Jesus in prayer before every great crisis

Luke alone says that Jesus prayed for Peter

Parables of the friend at midnight; the unjust judge; the Pharisee and the publican that teach about prayer

Praise: Luke is the singing Gospel

Angels sang to shepherd

Mary's Magnificat

Zechariah rejoices

Simeon's song

There is laughter in the Gospels (6:21)

There is joy in heaven when lost sheep and coin are found, and celebration upon return of the Prodigal Son

Gospel ends with word about praise (24: 52-53)