

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT

LUKE

Introduction

Author

Who wrote the Gospel of Luke? Why is Luke unique among the writers of the New Testament?

Destination

What primary audience is the Gospel directed toward?
What evidence is there for this position?

Themes

What is the major theme of Luke's Gospel?

Chapter 1

Dedication to Theophilus

If Luke was not an eyewitness to the ministry of Jesus, where did he get his information? (Note 1:2)

The Birth of John the Baptist Foretold

What does being consecrated as a Nazarite mean? What type of life does this vow entail? What famous Judge of the Old Testament was consecrated as a Nazarite? (Note 1:15)

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

What is the significance of the Angel Gabriel addressing Mary as “full of grace”? What Catholic Marian Dogma is associated with this biblical passage? (Note 1:28)

What Old Testament event relates to the Holy Spirit overshadowing Mary? What is the significance of this event? (Note 1:35)

Mary Visits Elizabeth; and Mary's Song of Praise

Do you see the Hail Mary in Luke's Gospel? What is meant by all generations shall call me blessed?

How does the Church interpret 1:43 "mother of my Lord"? (Note 1:43)

Mary, Ark of the Covenant

How does Mary's visitation with Elizabeth relate to the Old Testament story of David and the Ark of the Covenant?

Chapter 2

The Birth of Jesus

Who is Caesar Augustus and what is the Pax Romana?
What is the similarity between Caesar and Jesus? (Note 2:1)

What is the significance of the village of Bethlehem?
(Note 2:4)

The Census of Quirinius

Is Luke's account of the census historically inaccurate? Was Quirinius the legate of Syria at the time of the Nativity? Was the census cited by Luke for oath registration or for taxation?

The Shepherds and the Angels

How did Luke know what Mary was pondering in her heart? (Note 2:19)

Jesus is Presented in the Temple

Why would Mary present Jesus in the Temple? (Note 2:22)

The Boy Jesus in the Temple

How does Saint Ambrose interpret the discovery of Jesus in the Temple? (Note 2:46)

How could Jesus increase? If Jesus is God and God is perfect and lacks nothing, how can He increase? (Note 2:52)

Chapter 3

The Ancestry of Jesus

What does Luke stress in his genealogy of Jesus? What are the differences between Matthew's genealogy and Luke's genealogy? (Note 3:23-38)

Chapter 4

The Temptation of Jesus

What is the number 40 symbolic of in the Bible and what is it linked to in the Old Testament? (Note 4:2)

The Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth

What is the difference between a synagogue and the Temple? (Note 4:16)

What is a jubilee year and how does the forgiveness of debts relate to the ministry of Jesus? (Note 4:18-19)

Chapter 5

Jesus Cleanses a Leper

What happens when Jesus touches the leper? Does the leprosy make Jesus unclean? What is the symbolic meaning of leprosy? (Note 5:12)

How does Jesus model the active and contemplative life? (Note 5:16)

Jesus Heals a Paralytic

What were the official channels by which the Jewish people received forgiveness? Does Jesus challenge this system? (Note 5:21)

The Question about Fasting

In the Old Testament God was known as the divine husband and Israel was the unfaithful spouse. What role is Jesus assuming when He claims to be the bridegroom? Who is the bride in the New Testament? (Note 5:35)