

# Survey of Luke

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## Introduction

1. It is evident from the prologues to Luke and Acts that they were both written by the same man as a two-volume work (Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1-5). Luke was Paul's companion (Phil.24; 2 Tim.4:11).
2. Just like Matthew and Mark, Luke has his own emphasis. Luke writes primarily to Gentiles, the scattered congregations along the path of Pauline mission because he was part of Paul's missions team. For an example of see Luke 2:10; 3:6.
3. Paul describes Luke as a "beloved physician" and lists him with two Gentiles indicating that Luke was a Gentile (Col.4:12-14) as opposed to those "of the circumcision" (Col. 4:10-11). This makes Luke the only Gentile contributor to the New Testament.
4. Luke was not an eye-witness to the events of Christ's life but carefully investigated and arranged the truth for its presentation to Theophilus, a man of high standing who probably assumed responsibility for publishing Luke and Acts (Luke 1:1-4).
5. Luke's emphasis on Christ is in presenting Christ as the Perfect son of man (1:26-38; 2:46-52; 4:1-13; 24:51) who came to save sinful man (Luke 19:10). Jesus is the Savior, the one who came to seek and save what was lost (Luke 15 and 19). What does it take to be the perfect son of man?
6. Luke tells a lot of stories with meals, which is another reason why most of us will love Luke's gospel! Meals are a picture of the eschatological banquet and feast with God! In Luke 14:7-15 Jesus tells the parable of the banquets regarding a meal at a Pharisee's house. Look at who is invited to these banquets: the lame, blind, poor, and prisoners; and "Blessed is the man who will eat the feast in the kingdom of God" (v.15).
7. There is the emphasis on the inclusion of different people groups, including women and the poor. We see a prominence of women in Luke by comparison to the other Gospels. Women are among the most important supporters of Jesus financially. In Luke 8:1-3 we see that women are part of his entourage. We see an emphasis also on the lost and the least (Luke 10). There are a lot of stories of rich and poor.

## **Outline**

The Preparation of the Son of Man (1:1-4:13)

The Ministry of the Son of Man (4:14-19:48)

The Suffering of the Son of Man (20:1-23:56)

The Victory of the Son of Man (24:1-53)

## **Main Points and Application**

1. Jesus was born to be like us, live among us and to save us. This is “good news” of a “great joy” (2:10-12). How significant is this news for us? How intense the joy?
2. Jesus’ first recorded words were that he had to be “involved in the things of My Father” (2:49). What things would he want us to be involved with at age 12? At age 50?
3. Jesus grows as the perfect man (2:40, 51, 52). At age 30 he began his ministry (3:23). He had to be 30 to do priestly work (Num. 4:3, 47). Consider the importance of not merely growing up, but growing wise for future fruitful ministry.
4. Jesus’ ministry as the Son of man is presented as taking place in three primary regions: around Galilee (4:14-9:50), in Judea (9:51-19:27) and in Jerusalem (19:28-24:53). What does the beginning of his ministry tell us about the way he was brought up (4:14-16)?
5. Jesus had a reputation for being a “friend of sinners” (7:33-35; 19:10). Who do you think Jesus would want us to be ministering to?
6. Jesus’ ministry requirements 9:23; 14:25-27. Would these make good church membership requirements? Why or why not?
7. Peter denies Jesus as his Lord and Savior (22:54-62). In what ways do we follow in Peter’s sin? When we realize it, do we also weep bitterly (v.62)?
8. How was the thief on the cross saved (23:39-43)? The thief understood Jesus to be the King of the Jews, the Son of God, an innocent man, dying for the sins of others. How does this apply to us?
9. What do we need to participate in the victory of Christ (24:46-53)?