

Invitation Materials

Author:

- 1 While the book is anonymous, traditionally it is thought to be the work of Luke the physician, Paul's co-worker and companion (Col 4:14; 2 Tim 4:11).
- 2 Luke is the only non-Jewish author in the NT books.
- 3 Gospel of Luke is Volume I (Story of Jesus), and Acts is Volume II (Story of the church).

Date:

Uncertain; probably sometimes after the fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.

Theme:

Jesus is the Savior of the whole world.

Historical Background:

- 1 Luke wrote the record of Jesus' life for a Gentile audience.
- 2 In 1:3, he addresses the book to Theophilus, an unknown but probably wealthy Roman aristocrat.

Characteristics

- 1 Luke is the longest book in the NT.
- 2 It is marked by joy (1:46-47; 15:8-32; 24:52-53), songs of praise (1:46-55; 68-79; 2:14; 29-32).
- 3 The book has an interest in the relationship of Jesus with people considered outcasts by his fellow countrymen (e.g., women, children, the poor, tax-collectors and Samaritans).
- 4 Luke's Gentile orientation is seen in the fact that Jesus' genealogy is traced back to Adam(3:38), the founder of human race, rather than back to Abraham, the founder of the Jewish race (Mt 1:1).
- 5 Luke seldom quotes the OT like Matthew.
- 6 The book tells how the promised Messiah is indeed the Savior of the whole world.

Outline

1:1 – 2:52	Savior for All
3:1 – 4:13	Repent!
4:14 – 6:11	Jesus' Mission
6:12 – 7:50	Love
8:1 – 9:50	Healing
9:51 – 10:42	A Good Neighbor
11:1 – 12:59	Jesus' Kingdom
13:1 – 14:35	Care for the Poor
15:1 – 16:31	The Lost Son
17:1 – 18:43	The Rich man
19:1 – 20:47	Trick Questions
21:1 – 22:65	The Last Supper
22:66 – 24:53	Our Mission

Discussion Questions

Open

- 1 What is your favorite type of music?

Dig

- 1 There are four songs celebrating Jesus' birth.
(1) 1:46-55 Magnificat (2) 1:68-79 Benedictus
(3) 2:14 Gloria in Excelsis (4) 2:29-32 Nunc Dimittis

Who sings each one? Why? What do they show about God's plan?

If you had been there when these songs were first sung, what would be your expectation be for Jesus?

- 2 Now join the two others on the road to Emmaus (24:36-53). What themes and emotions are echoed here?

Reflect

- 1 What aspect of the Gospel first struck you as really good news?

Invitation materials and discussion questions are taken from Serendipity Bible