

Luke Outline

Introduction: Although Luke stands alone in the New Testament, it is really the first part of a two part work: Luke-Acts. Both volumes are written to a person named Theophilus (which literally means “lover of God” in Greek), and the language, style, and concerns strongly point to a common author.

Luke is traditionally considered to be written by a Gentile physician, although the evidence for this is far from unambiguous. One of the reasons people believe Luke may have been written is the Gospel’s unique concern for the socially marginal, and this is beyond dispute. Alone among the Gospels Luke’s concern for women, for the poor (not just the “poor in spirit” as in Matthew), and non-Jews is paramount. This incredible witness makes Luke not just a beautiful work, but one that reminds us of the prophetic call to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.

Section One: Infancy Narrative

Chapter 1: Dedication to Theophilus; birth of John foretold; birth of Jesus foretold; Mary visits Elizabeth and magnificat; birth of John

*Chapter 2: Birth of Jesus; shepherds and angels; Jesus named and presented in temple
Jesus as a boy in temple*

Section Two: Preparation for Ministry

Chapter 3: John’s message; baptism of Jesus; genealogy

Chapter 4:1-13: Temptations in the desert

Section Three: Galilean Ministry

Chapter 4:13-44: Jesus reads in synagogue and rejected; heals man with unclean spirit
Healings in Capernaum

Chapter 5: Calling of disciples; leper healed; paralytic healed; fasting questions

Chapter 6: Sabbath conflicts; names twelve apostles; sermon on the plain

Chapter 7: Healing of centurion’s servant; raising of widow’s son; John’s disciples
Woman anoints Jesus’ feet

Chapter 8: Women follow Jesus; parable of sower; lamp under the jar; true family
Jesus calms storm; healing of Gerasene demoniac; girl restored to life
Woman healed from hemorrhage

Chapter 9: Mission of twelve; feeding of five thousand; Peter’s confession; discipleship
Transfiguration; healing of boy with demon; Jesus foretells death
True greatness; the strange exorcist; Samaritan rejection; would-be followers

Section Four: Journey to Jerusalem

*Chapter 10: Mission of the seventy; woe to unrepentant cities; return of the seventy
Parable of Good Samaritan; Mary and Martha visit*

Chapter 11: Lord’s prayer; Jesus and Beelzebul; sign of Jonah; the light of the body
Jesus denounces Pharisees and lawyers

Chapter 12: Warning against hypocrisy; parable of rich fool; don’t worry; call to readiness
Jesus and judgment

Chapter 13: Parable of fig tree in vineyard; healing of crippled woman, parable of mustard
Seed and yeast; the narrow door; lament over Jerusalem

Chapter 14: Healing of man with dropsy (edema); hospitality; parable of banquet;
Cost of discipleship

Chapter 15: Parable of lost sheep; parable of lost coin; parable of prodigal son

Chapter 16: Parable of dishonest manager; law and kingdom; rich man and Lazarus

Chapter 17: Sayings of Jesus; healing of ten lepers; coming of the kingdom

Chapter 18: Parable of widow and unjust judge; parable of Pharisee and tax collector
Blessing of children; rich ruler; foretells death second time; blind beggar

Section Five: Jesus in Jerusalem

Chapter 19: Zacchaeus; parable of ten pounds; triumphal entry; weeping over Jerusalem
Cleansing of temple

Chapter 20: Authority question; parable of wicked tenants; taxes; resurrection question
Question over David's son; denouncing scribes

Chapter 21: Widow's offering; destruction of temple foretold; coming of Son of man;

Section Six: Passion and Resurrection Appearances

Chapter 22: Plot to kill Jesus; Passover prep; Lord's supper; dispute over greatness
Jesus predicts Peter's denial; purse/bag/and sword; mount of olives
Betrayal and arrest; denial and rejection

Chapter 23: Jesus before Pilate; Jesus before Herod; death sentence; crucifixion and burial

Chapter 24: Resurrection appearance to women; walk to Emmaus; appearance to disciples;
Ascension

Stories to know: (The importance of women) Luke's infancy narrative (Luke 1-2); (the 'other') parable of the good Samaritan; (grace) parable of the prodigal son