

BIBLE READING FOR 2023

WEEK #13

LUKE

03-26-23

Monday - Luke 1-4

Wednesday - Luke 10-12

Friday - Luke 20-24

Tuesday - Luke 5-9

Thursday - Luke 13-19

Luke is the third book in that group of New Testament writings known as the gospels. It is the first of two books written to an individual by the name of Theophilus, with Acts being the second (Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1). The Gospel of Luke provides information concerning the life and ministry of Jesus as well as his death, burial and resurrection. Acts then continues on with what happened to the Apostles after Christ ascended into heaven, giving us a history of the Lord's church. When we look at the last chapter of Luke and compare it with the first chapter of Acts, we can see how the author ties the two books together by reviewing the last things he covered in his gospel, before moving on to new material in his second book. Even though both books were written to an individual, they were obviously intended for a public audience, which was a common way of writing at that time. The Gospel of Luke is considered to be of the highest literary quality and has been called by some "the most beautiful book ever written."

The author of Luke, as well as Acts, has from early tradition been accepted to be Luke. When we consider the book of Acts we will give some other evidence for Luke being the author of both books.

The date of the writing of the Gospel of Luke that we will assign is around A.D. 60. Since we are fairly confident that Acts was written A.D. 62 to 63, and we know Luke preceded it, we are comfortable with this as the approximate date for the authorship of Luke. If this is correct then it was probably written in the city of Caesarea, during Paul's imprisonment there. However, as is the case so often, we are not positive of these dates and other opinions do exist.

The perspective from which this gospel was written is that of a Gentile, primarily for other Gentiles. Luke has the distinction of being the only non-Jewish writer of any New Testament literature (Col 4:10-14). He emphasizes that the gospel was not just for the Jews, but that it was for everyone. As a result he takes time to bring attention to the concern of Jesus for Gentiles, women and outcasts. He underscores the compassion of Christ for all those who truly need Him and what He has to offer.

An outline of the book of Luke:

1. The births of John and Jesus 1-2
2. John prepares the way 3
3. The ministry of Jesus 4-21
4. Arrest, trial, death, burial, resurrection and ascension of Jesus 22-24

Questions for Luke 1-24:

- 1.) Who were the parents of John the Baptist?

- 2.) What were the four kinds of soil that the seed fell upon in the parable of the sower in chapter eight?
- 3.) Who were the three individuals that came upon the man that had been wounded by robbers in the latter part of ten?
- 4.) What did Abraham tell the rich man as to why no one would come from the dead to try and get his family to repent in chapter sixteen?
- 5.) Toward the end of chapter twenty-two, what did Peter do that caused him to weep bitterly?

Answers to questions for Week #12 – Judges & Ruth:

- 1.) Idolatry.
- 2.) Shamgar.
- 3.) Burned her and her father to death.
- 4.) Orpah.
- 5.) Boaz.