

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT **LUKE**

Introduction – Chapter 5

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?

Structure

What is the structure of St Luke's Gospel?

Themes

What is the major theme of Luke's Gospel?

Read 1:1-4 If Luke was not an eyewitness to the ministry of Jesus, where did he get his information? (Note 1:2)

Read 1:5-6 Who is Herod, Zechariah & Elizabeth? (Note 1:5) (Note 1:6)

Read 1:14-17 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)

Read 1:8-13 What is the hour of incense? (Note 1:10)

Read 1:18 What is the difference between Mary's question and Zechariah's question? (Note 1:18) (Note 1:34)

Read 1:19 Who is the angel Gabriel? (Note 1:19)

Read 1:26-31 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)

Read 1:32-35 What Old Testament event relates to the Holy Spirit overshadowing Mary? What is the significance of this event? (Note 1:35)

Read 1:39-45 Do you see the Hail Mary in Luke’s Gospel? How does the Church interpret 1:43 “mother of my Lord”? (Note 1:43)

Read 1:46-55 What is meant by all generations shall call me blessed? What is the Magnificat? (Note 1:46-55)

Topical Essay -- 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?

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

Read 2:2-5 What is the significance of the village of Bethlehem? (Note 2:4)

Topical Essay -- 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?

Read 2:15-20 How did Luke know what Mary was pondering in her heart? (Note 2:19)

Read 2:21-24 Why would Mary present Jesus in the Temple? (Note 2:22)

Read 2:41-27 How does Saint Ambrose interpret the discovery of Jesus in the Temple? (Note 2:46)

Read 2:48-52 How could Jesus increase? If Jesus is God and God is perfect and lacks nothing, how can He increase? (Note 2:52)

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)

Read 4:1-2 What is the number 40 symbolic of in the Bible and what is it linked to in the Old Testament? (Note 4:2)

Read 4:16-19 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)

Read 5:12-16 What happens when Jesus touches the leper? Does the leprosy make Jesus unclean? What is the symbolic meaning of leprosy? (Note 5:12) (Note 5:13)

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

Read 5:17-26 What were the official channels by which the Jewish people received forgiveness? Does Jesus challenge this system? (Note 5:21)

Read 5:33-35 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)