

Purpose

To present an accurate account of the life of Christ and to present Him as the Savior

Author

Luke — doctor, Greek, Gentile, Christian, friend of Paul. He is the only Gentile author in the New Testament.

To Whom Written

Theophilus, Gentiles

Setting (60 AD)

From Rome or Caesarea

Key People

Jesus, John the Baptist, Mary, the Disciples, Herod, Pilate, Mary Magdalene

Key Places

Bethlehem, Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem

Key Verses

"Salvation has come to this home. I, the Son of Man, have come to seek and save the lost." *Luke 19:9,10*

Special Features

Luke is the most comprehensive Gospel. The vocabulary and diction show that the author was educated. Also, most of *9:51-18:35* is not found in any other Gospel. He also wrote *Acts*; the two books go together.

An Overview (24 Chapters)

- Birth and Preparation of Jesus (*1:1-4:13*)
- Message and Ministry of Jesus (*4:14-21:38*)
- Death and Resurrection of Jesus (*22:1-24:53*)

Major Themes

- *Jesus Christ, the Savior:* Luke describes how God's Son entered human history. Jesus lived as the perfect example of a human. After a perfect ministry, He provided a perfect sacrifice for our sin, so that we could be saved.
- *History:* Luke was a medical doctor and historian. He put great emphasis on dates and details, connecting Jesus to events and people in history. Luke provided details so we could believe in the reliability of the history of Jesus' life. More importantly, we can believe with certainty that Jesus was God.
- *People:* Jesus was deeply interested in people and relationships. He showed warm concern for His followers and friends — men, women, and children.
- *Compassion:* As a perfect human, Jesus showed tender sympathy to the poor, the despised, the hurt, and the sinful. No one was rejected or ignored by Him.
- *Holy Spirit:* The Holy Spirit was present at Jesus' birth, baptism, ministry, and resurrection. As a perfect example for us, Jesus lived in dependence on the Holy Spirit.