

The Bible - Week 33 (August 29th)

Eric Swanson / General

Luke

Author: likely a friend of Paul's who was a Gentile Doctor.

Date: The date and place of composition are uncertain, but many date the Gospel to 63–70 CE, others somewhat later.

Audience: Luke addressed this Gospel to “the most excellent Theophilus.” We are unsure who that is, but this book with Acts serves as the first Christian history and as a gentile perspective on the humanity of the Son of Man (Jesus).

Reason: To serve as a history and mode of sharing the news of Jesus around the known world.

Theme: Christ is the Savior of all.

Key Verse:

Luke 19:10 CEB

The Human One came to seek and save the lost.”

Sections: The Incarnation (Ch 1-3), The Galilean ministry (Ch 4-9), Journey Towards Jerusalem (Ch 10-19), Passion Week (Ch 19-24)

Key Words: Son of Man, Salvation, Kingdom, Pray

Basic Intro: It resembles the other synoptics in its treatment of the life of Jesus, but it goes beyond them in narrating the ministry of Jesus, widening its perspective to consider God's overall historical purpose and the place of the church within it. Luke, and its companion book, Acts of

the Apostles, portray the church as God's instrument of redemption on Earth in the interim between the death of Christ and the Second Coming.

Questions for Discussion:

- **What perspective does the birth and early life of Jesus give to you? Is this information important to you? Why/why not?**
- **Luke gives a lot of attention to the women, more than others would have and honestly more than we give women credit for today. With that in mind, how can we be better at elevating women and women in ministry today?**
- **Luke is the only Gospel to give us the Good Samaritan story & the Prodigal father/son story. How do those resonate with your faith and where might your faith be without them?**
- **Luke is also the only Gospel to share the Ascension of Jesus, what does the Ascension of Jesus mean for your faith?**