


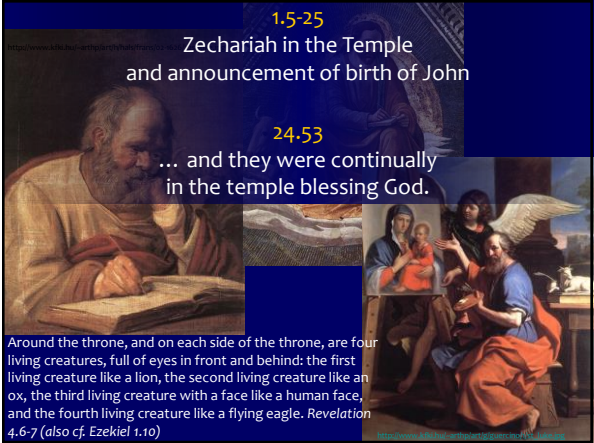
# An Introduction to the Four Gospels




Lay Ministry Institute - Upper Susquehanna Synod

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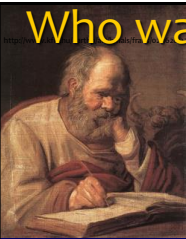
# The Gospel of Luke



[www.khu.be/~arthp/htm/gg/ghntland/romenico/romenico6/romenico6\\_yaouha.html](http://www.khu.be/~arthp/htm/gg/ghntland/romenico/romenico6/romenico6_yaouha.html)



# Who was Luke?



- May or may not have been a physician companion of Paul
  - Cf. Col 4.14: *Our dear friend Luke the physician ...*
  - Cf. Acts 16.10...: *After Paul saw the vision, we attempted ...*
- Well-educated second-generation Xn
  - Note grammar and vocabulary
  - Deep knowledge of Jewish Scripture and classical literature
- Either a Hellenistic Jew or a Gentile
- Had access to Mark and Q (or Matthew?)
- Written around 80-90 CE
- Also authored book of Acts
- Where?

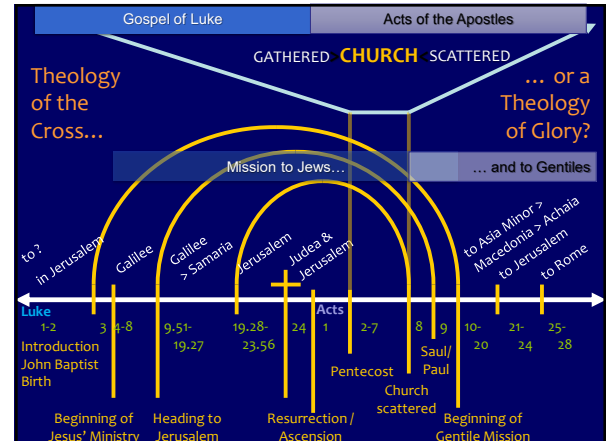
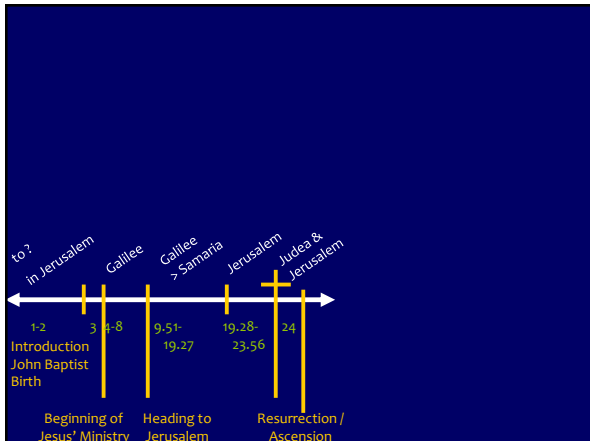


## An Outline of the Gospel of Luke

1.1-4	Prologue	
1.5-2.52	Announcements of and Births of John the Baptist and Jesus	
3.1-22	John the Baptist and Jesus' baptism	
3.23-28	Jesus' genealogy	3.1-6.1 from Mark
4.1-13	Jesus tempted in the wilderness	
4.14-30	Jesus' inaugural message	
4.31-9.50	Jesus' miracles and teachings	6.20-8.3 "Little Interpolation"
6.20-49	Sermon on the Plain	
	"When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem." (9.51)	
9.51-19.27	Jesus' ministry continues as his way is directed towards Jerusalem	
19.28-21.38	Jesus' visitation of Jerusalem	9.51-18.14 "Big Interpolation"
22.1-65	The Passover: preparations, meal, arrest	
22.66-23.25	Jesus' trials	
23.26-56	Jesus' crucifixion	18.15-24.11 from Mark
24.1-12	The empty tomb	
24.13-35	The road to Emmaus	
24.36-53	Jesus' appearance and commission to his followers	

## The Gospel of Luke

1.1-4:	Prologue
1.5-4.13:	Introductory Matters – Preparation for Jesus' Ministry
4.14-9.51:	Jesus' Ministry in Galilee
9.52-19.27:	Jesus Journeys to Jerusalem: Instruction, Mission, Healing, Controversy
19.28-21.38:	Jesus' Ministry in Jerusalem
22.1-22.43:	Jesus' Death and Resurrection
24.44-53:	Conclusion



## Why was the Gospel of Luke written?

- Theologically**
    - Responding to crisis of faith due to delay of parousia
    - Establishing Gentile mission
    - Refuting gnostic tendencies (?)
    - Clarify identity and nature of Jesus
  - Politically**
    - Establish Xnty as a legitimate religion
    - Reduce Roman persecution\*
  - Pastorally**
    - Guide Xns whose faith faltering in face of quandries, heresies, tribulations
  - Ecclesiastically**
    - Provide portrait of ideal church (unity and order)
    - Embed liturgical resources
- cf. Mark Allan Powell, The Gospels, p99

## Style and Substance

- Unique material** includes five miracle stories and seventeen parables
- Discipleship** given an immersion experience: "learning on the job"
- Changes to Mark**
  - Smooths rough language
  - Broadens appeal to "more culturally diverse audience"
  - Softens Mark's portrayal of Jesus' disciples
  - Uses Greek similar to Septuagint's language
  - Uses musical and poetic language of liturgy
  - 'Idealizes' portrait of Jesus

## Key Themes

- ◉ Women
- ◉ Ministry to the excluded and disadvantaged
- ◉ Samaritans ~~~
- ◉ Jerusalem, a focal point
- ◉ Worship and prayer
- ◉ Food
- ◉ Riches and poverty
- ◉ Work of the Holy Spirit
- ◉ Disciples of Jesus are examples for imitation
- ◉ Salvation
  - Available here and now
  - Liberation
- ◉ Muted eschatology

## Prologue

Luke 1:1-4

Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, <sup>2</sup> just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, <sup>3</sup> I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, <sup>4</sup> so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.

## Who was Theophilus?

Luke 1:1-4

Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, <sup>2</sup> just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, <sup>3</sup> I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, <sup>4</sup> so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.

- possibly anyone who is a "lover of God"
- possibly a wealthy patron of 'Luke'
- Theophilus was not a common name, but it is well documented; Josephus mentions a Theophilus who was high priest from 37-41CE

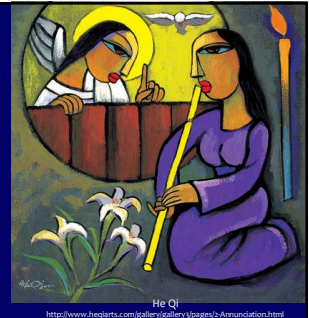
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theophilus\\_%28Biblical%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theophilus_%28Biblical%29)

Luke 1.26ff.

### Annunciation

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph...

Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."



Fulfilling Scripture...

Luke 1.39ff.

### Visitation / Magnificat

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ...

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty."

For whom is this good news? For whom is it not?  
(Would this get you in trouble?)

<http://www.heqarts.com/gallery/gallery3/pages/3-TheVisitation.html>

He Qi



Luke 1.39ff.

### Visitation / Magnificat

He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Fulfilling promises to Israel ...

<http://www.heqarts.com/gallery/gallery3/pages/3-TheVisitation.html>

He Qi






Luke 1.57ff.

## Birth of John the Baptist Zechariah's *Benedictus*

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,  
for he has looked favorably on his  
**people** (λαος) and redeemed them.  
He has raised up a mighty savior for us  
in the house of his servant David,  
as he spoke through the mouth of his  
holy prophets from of old, ...



<http://www.weis.net/wmc/Downloads/164.gif>


*Fulfilling promises to Israel ... But what about the Gentiles?*

**Luke 2.1ff**

**Birth of Jesus**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.



<http://www.asianchristianart.org/galleries/hativity/nati-gal/nat65.html>

*Grounding in world history...*

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

to you is born this day  
in the city of David a Savior,  
who is the Messiah, the Lord.


**Luke 2.22ff.**

**Simeon and Anna**  
*Nunc Dimittis*

Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,\* a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."


*For whom is this good news?*



Luke 2.41ff

Boy Jesus in the Temple

Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?



[www.hogarth.com/galleries/works/c170003imgageThe\\_Boy\\_Jesus\\_in\\_the\\_Temple.jpg](http://www.hogarth.com/galleries/works/c170003imgageThe_Boy_Jesus_in_the_Temple.jpg)

## Luke 3.21ff Baptism of Jesus

... and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.



<http://www.hqjarts.com/gallery/new-works/072002/images/hew2003/the-Baptism-of-Jesus.jpg>



## Geneology Luke 3.23ff.

Jesus was about thirty years old when he began his work. He was the son (as was thought) of Joseph son of Heli, ...  
...son of Nathan, son of David, son of Jesse, ...  
... son of Judah, son of Jacob, son of Isaac, son of Abraham,...  
... son of Enos, son of Seth, son of Adam, **son of God**.

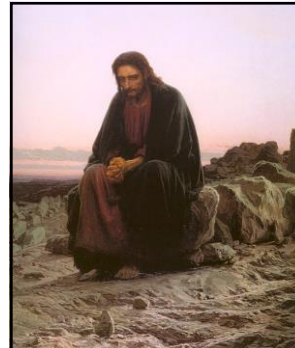
## Luke 4.1ff Temptation of Jesus

If you are the Son of God,...

1. Stones > Bread
2. Dominions of the world
3. Temple jump

Matthew:

1. Stones > Bread
2. Temple jump
3. Dominions of the world



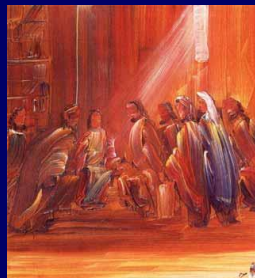
<http://cgfa.sunsite.dk/k/kramskoya3.jpg>

## Luke 4.16ff Inaugural Address

He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."



[www.asianchristianart.org/profile/Zaki/About/images/23aboun8-1.jpg](http://www.asianchristianart.org/profile/Zaki/About/images/23aboun8-1.jpg)

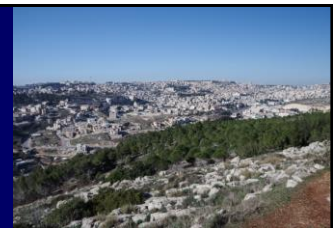
Quote from Isa 61.1f & 58.6

## Luke 4.16ff Inaugural Address

<sup>23</sup> He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'"

<sup>24</sup> And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown..."

When was Jesus in Capernaum? (Cf. v31) > What does this tell us about Luke's history?



## Teachings of Jesus

Matthew 5

### Sermon on the Mount

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Luke 6

### Sermon on the Plain

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven;

## Luke 9.51

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.

## Teaching in Parables

- The Good Samaritan
- The Prodigal Son
- The Rich Man and Lazarus

## Rich and Poor in Luke

- 1.53: The Mighty One... has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.
- 6.20-24: Blessed are the poor... but woe to you who are rich.

## Four Rich Guys

- 12.13-21: Parable of the Rich Fool
- 16.19-31: Parable of Rich Man and Lazarus
- 18.18-30: Rich Ruler
- 19.1-10: Zacchaeus

## Luke 18:18-30 The Rich Ruler



Luke 18:18-30  
The Rich Ruler

A certain ruler asked him,  
"Good Teacher,  
what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

<sup>19</sup> Jesus said to him,  
"Why do you call me good?  
No one is good but God alone.  
<sup>20</sup> You know the commandments:  
'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not  
murder; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false  
witness; Honor your father and mother.'"

Luke 18:18-30  
The Rich Ruler

<sup>21</sup> He replied,  
"I have kept all these since my youth."

<sup>22</sup> When Jesus heard this, he said to him,  
"There is still one thing lacking.  
Sell all that you own and distribute the money  
to the poor, and you will have treasure in  
heaven; then come, follow me."

Luke 18:18-30  
The Rich Ruler

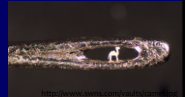
<sup>23</sup> But when he heard this,  
he became sad;  
for he was very rich.

Luke 18:18-30  
The Rich Ruler

Jesus looked at him and said,

"How hard it is for those who have wealth  
to enter the kingdom of God!

<sup>25</sup> Indeed, it is easier for a camel  
to go through the eye of a needle  
than for someone who is rich  
to enter the kingdom of God."



Luke 18:18-30  
The Rich Ruler

<sup>26</sup> Those who heard it said,  
"Then who can be saved?"

<sup>27</sup> He replied,  
"What is impossible for mortals  
is possible for God."

Luke 18:18-30  
The Rich Ruler

<sup>28</sup> Then Peter said,  
"Look, we have left our homes and followed you."

<sup>29</sup> And he said to them,  
"Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or  
wife or brothers or parents or children,  
for the sake of the kingdom of God,  
<sup>30</sup> who will not get back very much more in this age,  
and in the age to come eternal life."

*So, poor is good/ rich is bad; leave all and receive dominion of God...*



## Luke 19.1-10



### Zacchaeus

He entered Jericho and was passing through it.

<sup>2</sup> A man was there named Zacchaeus;...

## Luke 19.1-10

**Luke 18:35-43**

As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging...

"Lord, let me **see** again."

<sup>42</sup> Jesus said to him,

"**Receive your sight**; your faith has saved you."

<sup>43</sup> Immediately he **regained his sight** and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they **saw** it, praised God.

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. <sup>2</sup> A man was there named Zacchaeus;...

ἀναβλέπω ὁράω

## Luke 19.1-10



He entered Jericho and was passing through it.

<sup>2</sup> A man was there named Zacchaeus;...

## Luke 19.1-10

... he was a chief tax collector and was **rich**.

## Luke 19.1-10

<sup>3</sup> He was trying to **see** who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature.

<sup>4</sup> So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to **see** him, because he was going to pass that way.



## Luke 19.1-10

<sup>5</sup> When Jesus came to the place, he **looked up** and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today."  
<sup>6</sup> So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him.



## Luke 19.1-10

<sup>7</sup> All who **saw** it began to grumble and said,  
"He has gone to be the guest  
of one who is a sinner."

## Luke 19.1-10

<sup>8</sup> Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord,  
"Look, half of my possessions, Lord,  
I [will] give to the poor;  
and if I have defrauded anyone of anything,  
I [will] pay back four times as much."

... καὶ εἴ τις τινός τι ἐσυκοφάνησα  
ἀποδίδωμι τετραπλοῦν

## Luke 19.1-10

<sup>9</sup> Then Jesus said to him,  
"Today salvation has come to this house,  
because he too is a son of Abraham.

<sup>10</sup> For the Son of Humanity came  
to seek out and to save the lost."

*So, poor is good/ rich is bad; leave all and receive dominion of God...  
So, blessed are the poor and the rich who are generous?*

## The Death of Jesus

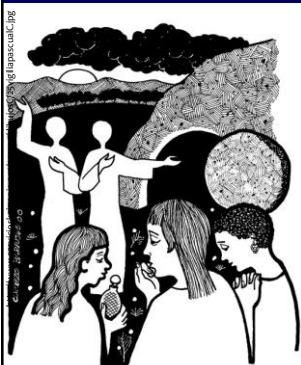
Father, forgive them;  
for they do not know what they are doing."

"Truly I tell you,  
today you will be with me in Paradise."

"Father, into your hands  
I commend my spirit."

"Certainly this man was innocent (δίκαιος)."

## Resurrection

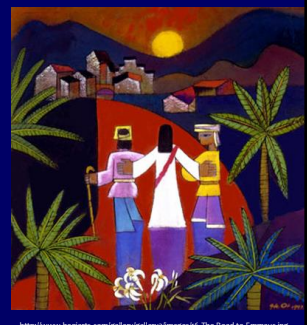


- Women (3+) go with spices
- Find tomb open and empty
- "Two men in dazzling clothes" appear and speak to women
- Women return and tell 11, but they do not believe
- Peter runs to tomb; sees nothing; is amazed

## Road to Emmaus

Were not our hearts  
burning within us  
while he was talking to us  
on the road,  
while he was opening the  
scriptures to us?

and  
Appearance in  
Jerusalem



## Ascension



<http://www.asianchristianart.org/galleries/resurrection/images/bagong1.jpg>

Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.

## The Gospel of Luke

and the sequel:

### The Book of Acts

In the Gospel of Luke,  
Jesus is...

To you is born this day in the city of David  
a **Savior**, who is the **Messiah**, the **Lord**.

Luke 2:11

H  
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**Messiah**, the ideal king of Israel's hopes

**Son of Man** who is seated at the right hand of God

**Mosaic prophet** who speaks God's word

**(Suffering) Servant** who was committed to the poor

**Elijah** who bestows the Spirit on his followers

In the Gospel of Luke,  
Jesus is...

**MESSIAH** from birth

**LORD** from birth

**SAVIOR** from birth

G R  
R O  
E M  
C A  
O N

**Philosopher** who teaches and founds a movement

**Immortal**, of divine birth; intercedes on human's behalf

**Benefactor** who bestows blessings upon society