

Walking Through the Word

Jesus, Paul and the Church (Week 22)

Story: **Salvation for ALL** [E: Jesus Speaks at Nazareth, Many Fish (384-387), A Widow's Son Is Raised to Life, John the Baptist in Prison, A Woman Anoints Jesus' Feet (401-405), On the Way Through Samaria, The Ten Lepers, Would-Be Followers (428-430), Seventy Other Disciples Sent Out, The Good Samaritan (438-442), A Sick Man Is Healed, The Parable of the Supper, A Crippled Woman Is Healed, Jesus Answers the Pharisees, The Prodigal Son, The Rich Man and Lazarus, The Unjust Judge, The Pharisee and the Publican (445-455), Zacchaeus Climbs a Tree, The Parable of the Pounds (457-460), The Stranger on the Road to Emmaus (484-486), Jesus' Last Meeting with His Disciples (488-489)]

Location: **Luke 4:16-5:11, 7, 9:51-10:37, 13-15, 16:19-31, 17:11-19, 18:1-19:27, 24**

Bios & definitions

Author: much unmistakable evidence points to Luke as the author of this gospel. Additionally, Luke is the only known Gentile author in the New Testament. He was probably a Gentile by birth, well educated in Greek culture, a physician by profession, and a close friend and companion of Paul. Though Luke was not an eyewitness of Jesus' ministry he took great care in making sure that the account he presents is accurate (Luke 1:3-4). Luke is a companion to the book of Acts, which Luke also wrote. It may have been written AD 59-63, probably from Rome.

Audience and Purpose: Luke gives us both of these in the first four verses. He is writing to Theophilus to give him a carefully investigated orderly account "so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught" (1:4). Although the book was addressed to Theophilus it was also intended to be circulated among the Gentiles (non-Jews) in order to give instruction to them.

Theophilus: name means "one who loves God" or "friend of God"; since Luke refers to him as "most excellent" he was probably a Roman official and Luke's patron who was financing the writing and publishing of his work.

Points to Remember: Luke is the most comprehensive Gospel and is generally chronological. Luke stresses Jesus' relationships with people; emphasizes prayer, miracles, and angels; records inspired hymns of praise; and gives a prominent place to women. Luke gives the most detailed account of the birth of Jesus, beginning with the angel's announcement to Elizabeth that her cousin Mary was also with child.

synagogue: during the exile they were established as places of worship on the Sabbath and schools for young boys during the week; could be set up in any town in which there were at least 10 Jewish families; administered by one leader and an assistant; often a visiting rabbi would read from the scriptures and teach

parable: a simple story that uses familiar events to illustrate a moral or religious lesson; often used by Jesus to make a point to the Pharisees

Samaritans: hated by the Jews because they were a mixed race produced when Jews from the northern kingdom intermarried with other people after Israel's exile

Zacchaeus: a Jew by birth but chose to work for Rome as a tax collector; was the chief tax collector in Jericho; was a short man so he climbed a tree to see Jesus as he passed through on his way to Jerusalem; heart was changed by his encounter with Jesus