

Luke

Breakdown

- Luke is the writer of the gospel that bears his name. He wasn't an eyewitness to Jesus' ministry, but he lived during that time, and according to his own writings, he *"carefully investigated everything from the beginning"*.
- As the words in his introduction show, Luke must have written his gospel after Matthew and Mark (sometime in the 60s A.D.). Luke goes into more detail than the other gospels, making his book not only the longest gospel, but the longest book in the New Testament.

Main Points

- In the Gospel of Luke, we see Jesus as a man. More than the other gospels, Luke gives extensive details about the birth, boyhood, and manhood of Jesus, emphasizing His feelings which reveal His humanity. Luke repeatedly uses the phrase "Son of Man" to remind us that Jesus fully became a human like us & experienced the same things we do.
- Jesus had to become a man because God's plan to reconnect us to Himself required a substitute to take man's place and suffer what man should suffer. No man would ever be able to do it, and even an angel couldn't do it. Only God Himself would be able to fulfill the requirements which meant that God and man had to become one, and that is exactly what happened when Jesus came to the earth and became our substitutionary sacrifice.

Did you know?

- The Gospel of Luke begins and ends in the same place. What is the place?
- Unknown to His parents, Jesus stayed in Jerusalem when Joseph and Mary returned to Nazareth. They went back and found Him in the temple. How old was Jesus at the time?
- At the beginning of chapter 8, Luke provides details about the people who were travelling with Jesus. What is unusual about this list?
- Luke is the only gospel that records the story of a widow's son being raised from the dead. Where did this miracle take place?
- Matthew and Mark each recorded Jesus praying on 2 different occasions, but Luke shows Jesus' prayer life over and over again. How many times does Luke talk about Jesus praying?
- In Matthew, we read about several parables of Jesus, and Mark included a few parables in his gospel. Luke records 6 parables that were not included in the other gospels. Which parables did only Luke record?

Further Thought

- Luke is the only gospel that records the story of the 10 lepers who were cleansed and one, a Samaritan, ran back to give thanks. What can we learn from this story to apply to our lives today?
- Luke emphasizes Jesus' compassion for people of all circumstances: rich and poor, male and female, Jew and Gentile, etc. How can we follow Jesus' example of showing kindness to everyone?