

## I. The Births That Announce God's Plan (Chapters 1–2)

### A. Promise and Preparation (Chapter 1)

- **Announcement of John the Baptist's Birth** (Luke 1:5–25)
  - Angel Gabriel speaks to Zechariah
  - Announcement of John the Baptist as forerunner of the Messiah.
  - Zechariah was rendered unable to speak due to unbelief.
- **Announcement of Jesus' Birth** (Luke 1:26–38)
  - Mary responds in faithful obedience
  - Gabriel visits Mary in Nazareth.
  - Jesus is to be called *Son of the Most High*.
- **Mary Visits Elizabeth** (Luke 1:39–56)
  - The baby (John) leaps in Elizabeth's womb.
  - Mary's *Magnificat*—a song glorifying God's mercy.
  - God exalts the humble and fulfills His promises
- **Birth of John the Baptist** (Luke 1:57–80)
  - Zechariah's speech restored.
  - *Benedictus* prophecy declares John's calling and the Messiah's mission.
  - Prophecy of preparing the way for the Lord

### B. The Birth and Early Life of Jesus (Chapter 2)

- **Birth of Jesus** (Luke 2:1–20)
  - Jesus was wrapped in cloths and laid in a manger.
  - Angelic announcement of *good news of great joy*.
  - Heavenly host praises God: "Glory to God in highest heaven..."
- **Presentation at the Temple** (Luke 2:21–38)
  - Simeon prophesies that Jesus is the *Light for the Gentiles*.
  - Anna the prophet, speaks of redemption.
- **Boy Jesus at the Temple** (Luke 2:41–52)
  - At age 12, Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem.
  - His words: "Didn't you know I must be in my Father's house?"
  - Jesus is aware of His divine mission

## II. Preparation for Ministry (Chapter 3–4:13)

### A. Ministry of John the Baptist

- Preaches repentance and baptism.
- Declares the coming of One mightier than he.
- **Baptism of Jesus** (Luke 3:21–22)
  - The Holy Spirit descends; the Father affirms the Son
- **Genealogy of Jesus** (Luke 3:23–38)
  - Jesus identified as the Son of Adam and the Son of God

### B. Temptation of Jesus (Luke 4:1–13)

- Jesus resists Satan using the Word of God
- Victory through obedience and dependence on God

## III. Jesus Begins His Public Ministry (Luke 4:14–44)

- **Jesus Rejected in Nazareth** (Luke 4:16–30)
  - Declares fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy
- **Authority Over Demons and Disease** (Luke 4:31–41)
- **Preaching the Kingdom of God** (Luke 4:42–44)

## IV. Calling Disciples & Demonstrating Authority (Chapters 5–6)

### A. Calling the First Disciples (Chapter 5)

- Miraculous catch of fish
- Calling of Peter, James, and John
- Healing of a man with leprosy
- Healing of a paralyzed man and the authority to forgive sins

### B. Jesus Challenges Religious Norms (Chapter 6)

- Lord of the Sabbath
- Choosing the Twelve Apostles
- **Sermon on the Plain** (Luke 6:17–49)
  - Blessings and woes
  - Love for enemies
  - Fruit reveals the heart

## V. Compassionate Power and Expanding Ministry (Chapters 7–8)

### A. Healing the Centurion's Servant (*Luke 7:1–10*)

- Praises the centurion's faith: "I haven't seen faith like this!"

### B. Raising the Widow's Son (*Luke 7:11–17*)

- Jesus shows compassion and authority over death.

### C. Jesus affirmed as the promised One (*Luke 7:18–35*)

- "Are you the one?" Jesus points to His works.
- Commends John's role as forerunner.

### D. The Anointing by the Sinful Woman (*Luke 7:36–50*)

- At Simon the Pharisee's home.
- Jesus forgives her sins: "Your faith has saved you."

### E. Women Disciples & Parable of the Sower (*Luke 8:1–15*)

- Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Susanna were named.
- Parable of the farmer scattering seed and its meanings.

### F. Miracles Over Nature, Demons, and Death (*Luke 8:22–56*)

- Calms the storm.
- Casts out Legion into pigs.
- Heals the woman with the issue of blood and raises Jairus's daughter.

### G. Commissioning the Twelve & Feeding the 5,000 (*Luke 9:1–17*)

- Disciples sent to preach and heal.
- Miracle of the five loaves and two fish feeding multitudes.

### H. Peter's Confession and Jesus Predicts His Death (*Luke 9:18–27*)

- Peter declares: "You are the Messiah sent from God!"
- Jesus teaches about His suffering and the cost of discipleship.

### I. The Transfiguration (*Luke 9:28–36*)

- Jesus transfigured before Peter, James, and John.
- Moses and Elijah appear; a voice from the cloud confirms Sonship.

### J. Further Ministry and Teaching (*Luke 9:37–50*)

- Heals a demon-possessed boy.

- Teaches on greatness and humility.

#### K. Samaritan Opposition & Cost of Following Jesus (*Luke 9:51–62*)

- Jesus resolutely sets out for Jerusalem.
- Rebukes desire for revenge.
- Teaches the urgency and sacrifice of discipleship.

### VI. His Journey to Jerusalem (*Luke 9:51 – 19:44*)

#### A. Five Recorded Miracles in Luke 11-18

##### 1. The Exorcism of the Mute Spirit (*Luke 11:14*)

Jesus frees a man unable to speak; the crowd marvels.

##### 2. Healing the Crippled Woman (*Luke 13:10–17*)

- Crippled for **18 years**
- Jesus declares: *“Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity.”*
- She stands straight and praises God.

##### 3. Healing the Man with Dropsy – *Luke 14:1–6*

Jesus heals a man of dropsy (severe swelling) on the Sabbath, challenging legalism. This instance occurred in the home of a Pharisee.

##### 4. Cleansing the Ten Lepers – *Luke 17:11–19*

Ten are healed; only **one returns** to give thanks.

##### 5. Healing Blind Bartimaeus – *Luke 18:35–43*

Persistent faith draws Jesus’ attention; sight is restored.

#### B. Sayings, Parables, and Rebukes Unique to Luke

Luke records treasures that the other Gospels do not, revealing:

- Jesus’ unmatched wisdom
- Emphasis on **repentance**, focus on **one’s assignment**, and recognition that **the kingdom of God is within you**

##### Key Passages:

- **Luke 13:1–5** – Repentance for all
- **Luke 13:31–33** – Jesus’ resolve to finish His work
- **Luke 17:20–21** – *“The Kingdom of God is within you.”*

### C. Jesus Laments Over Jerusalem

#### 1. First Lament – Luke 13:34–35

Jesus expresses his desire to protect the city, but they would not listen. This highlights the ongoing, persistent rejection of him by the religious leaders. Uses the parable of longing to gather Israel like a hen gathers her chicks.

#### 2. Second Lament – Luke 19:41–44

He weeps over the city's blindness to God's visitation. Takes place during the Triumphal Entry, when Jesus looks over the city and weeps for its future destruction. He specifically notes that they failed to recognize the "time of [their] visitation".

### D. Teaching on Salvation – Luke 13:22–33

Jesus answers questions about being saved and instructs His disciples to:

- Examine themselves
- Strive for the narrow gate
- Recognize urgency in following Him

## VII. Sacrifice and Triumph (Luke 19:45 – 24)

**Central Theme:** *"For the Son of Man came to seek and save that which was lost."*

**Key Phrase:** *"Son of Man"*

#### 1. His Crucifixion (Luke 23:33–34)

- Pilate declares Jesus innocent **three times**
- Yet crowds demand His death
- Jesus is crucified at Calvary between two criminals

#### 2. His Entombment (Luke 23:50–56)

- Joseph of Arimathea requests Jesus' body
- Wrapped in linen
- Laid in a **new, unused tomb**

#### 3. His Resurrection (Luke 24)

- Angels announce: *"He is not here—He is risen!"*
- Reminder of Jesus' promise:  
*"The Son of Man must be delivered... crucified... and rise again on the third day."*

#### 4. His Ascension (Luke 24:53)

- Jesus blesses His disciples

- Ascends to heaven
- They rejoice, filled with worship
- Marks the transition to the ministry of the Holy Spirit

**Key Note:** *The risen Jesus changed everything.*

## VIII. His Humanity and His Deity in Luke

### A. His Manhood Emphasized (Luke 22:44)

- Sweat “like drops of blood”
- Deep agony, yet surrendered
- Endured mockery, beating, torture

### B. His Deity Evident In:

1. His answers
2. His submissiveness
3. His resurrection
4. His post-resurrection ministry
5. His ascension
6. His impact on the people

## IX. Distinctives of the Gospel of Luke

### 1. Jesus’ Dependence on Prayer

More references to Jesus praying than any other Gospel.

Examples:

- Luke 3:21 - *"Jesus also was baptized, and while He prayed,"*
- Luke 5:16 - *"He often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed."*
- Luke 6:12 - *"He...continued all night in prayer to God"*
- Luke 9:18 - *"as he was alone praying,"*
- Luke 9:28 – *"He...went up into the mountain to pray"*
- Luke 9:29 - *"As He prayed"* (at transfiguration on the Mount)
- Luke 11:1 - *"as He was praying in a certain place."*
- Luke 22:32 - *"But I have prayed for thee"* (referencing praying for Peter)
- Luke 22:44 - *"He prayed more earnestly."*

- Luke 23:34 - His first utterance on the Cross (a prayer)
- Luke 22:46- "His last utterance on the Cross (a prayer)

Jesus engaged in prayer only twice in Matthew (Matthew 14:23; Matthew 27:46), and twice in Mark (Mark 6:46; Mark 15:34).

## 2. Jesus' Teaching on Prayer

Luke highlights key parables and instructions:

- Luke 11:9–10 – Asking, seeking, knocking (a midnight appeal)
- Luke 18:1 – *"Always pray and not faint."*
- Luke 18:9–14 – Humility in prayer
- Luke 21:36 – Watch and pray (pray always)
- Luke 22:46 – Rise and pray

## 3. Prominence of the Holy Spirit in Luke

Luke emphasizes the Spirit more than Matthew, Mark, or John.

Examples:

- Luke 1:35 - the Holy Spirit and conception of Christ
- Luke 4:1 - *"being filled with the Holy Spirit,"*
- Luke 4:14 - *"Jesus returned in the Power of the Spirit"*
- Luke 4:18 - *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me,... anointed Me"*
- Luke 11:13 - *"how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit"*

## 4. All-Inclusive Ministry of Jesus

Parables found only in Luke, demonstrating God's heart for ALL:

- Two debtors (Luke 7:41–50)
- The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30–37)
- The Great Supper (Luke 14:6–24)
- The Lost coin (Luke 15:8–10)
- The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:1–32)
- The Pharisee & publican (Luke 18:9–14)

## Simeon's Prophecy (Luke 2:29–32)

Jesus is:

- **Salvation for all peoples**
- **Light for the Gentiles**

- **Glory for Israel**

*“Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, According to Your word; 30 For my eyes have seen Your salvation 31 Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, 32 A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, And the glory of Your people Israel.” (NKJV)*

## 5. Luke’s Emphasis on Women in Jesus’ Ministry

Examples include:

- Forgiving women (Luke 7:37–50)
- His care for Martha (Luke 10:41)
- The Woman with the issue of blood (Luke 13:10–17)
- Elizabeth, John’s mother (Luke 1:5)
- Anna the prophetess adoration of the Lord (Luke 2:36–38)

**Theme:** Jesus dignifies and affirms women in ways uncommon to His culture.

## X. Reflection & Application

Use these passages to examine:

- Your walk with Jesus
- Your urgency in following Him
- Your understanding of the Kingdom within you
- Your posture in prayer
- Your commitment to your God-given assignment

### Reference:

Stringfellow, Alan B. *Through the Bible in One Year: A 52 Lesson Introduction to the 66 Books of the Bible*. Whitaker House, 2005.