

The 4 Gospels Compared



Matthew, Mark , Luke & John

What is a Gospel?

- ❖ gospel |'gäspəl|
- ❖ ORIGIN Old English *gōdspel*, from *gōd* [good] + *spel* [news, a story] , translating from Greek *euangelion* 'good news' ;

Why 4 Gospels?

❖ The Synoptic Gospels: “*seeing together*”

● Matthew (A.D. 58-68) 42%

● Mark (A.D. 55-65) 7%

● Luke (A.D. 60-68) 59%

● John (A.D. 80-90) 92%

LUKE

❖ Authorship: title of “According to Luke”

Name(s): Luke (mentioned 3 times)

Colossians 4:10-14 (Gentile Doctor)

My fellow prisoner Aristarchus sends you his greetings, as does Mark, the cousin of Barnabas. (You have received instructions about him; if he comes to you, welcome him.) Jesus, who is called Justus, also sends greetings. These are the only Jews among my co-workers for the kingdom of God, and they have proved a comfort to me. Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured. I vouch for him that he is working hard for you and for those at Laodicea and Hierapolis. Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and Demas send greetings.

LUKE

❖ Authorship: title of “According to Luke”

Name(s): Luke (mentioned 3 times)

Philemon 23-24

Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends you greetings. And so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas and Luke, my fellow workers.

LUKE

❖ Authorship: title of “According to Luke”

Name(s): Luke (mentioned 3 times)

2 Timothy 4:11

Do your best to come to me quickly, for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry.

LUKE

❖ Authorship: title of “According to Luke”

Name(s): Luke (“we” in Acts)

Acts 16:8-10

So **THEY** passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” After Paul had seen the vision, **WE** got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

Who did Luke write to?

❖ Theophilus (loved by God)

Luke 1:1-4

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

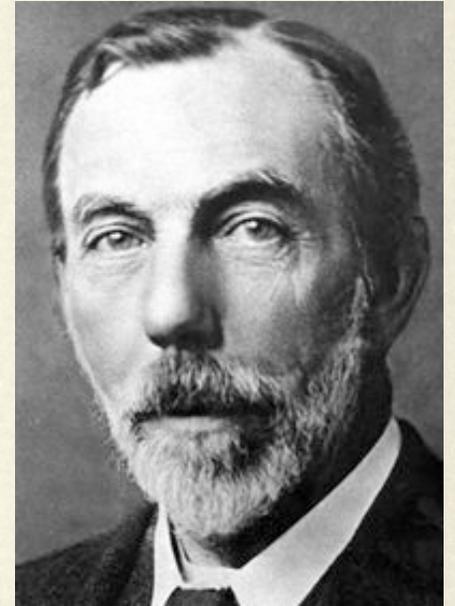
Acts 1:1-2

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen.

Who did Luke write to?

Sir William Ramsay (1851-1939)

“Luke is a historian of the first rank; not merely are his statements of fact trustworthy, he is possessed of the true historic sense...in short, this author should be placed among the greatest of historians.”



Who did Luke write to?

❖ The Synoptic Gospels: “*seeing together*”

● Matthew (A.D. 58-68) Jews (religion)

● Mark (A.D. 55-65) Romans (law)

● Luke (A.D. 60-68) Greeks (art and lit.)

LUKE

Purpose

To show the Universality of
the Good News. The Good
News applies to ALL!

LUKE

❖ Proof of Purpose

Luke 2:29-32 (story of Simeon)

"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."

LUKE

❖ Proof of Purpose

Luke 3:23 (Genealogy)

Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph, the son of Heli,

Compare to Matthew 1

LUKE

❖ Proof of Purpose

Luke 4:25-27 (non-Israelites)

I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian."

LUKE

❖ Proof of Purpose

Luke 10:30-37 (the Good Samaritan)

Luke 17:16 (the 10 Lepers)

One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.

LUKE

❖ Proof of Purpose

Luke 24:46-47 (Parting words of Christ)

He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

LUKE

❖ What would we **NOT** know if it weren't for the writings of Luke?

Theophilus (1:1-4)

Angel promises births of John and Jesus
(1:5-38)

Mary visits Elizabeth (1:39-56)

John the Baptist born (1:57-80)

Jesus born in Bethlehem (2:1-7)

Shepherds visit Jesus (2:8-20)

Dedication of Jesus in temple (2:21-40)

12 years old in the temple (2:41-52)

Herod imprisons John (3:19-20)

Rejected at Nazareth (4:16-30)

Miraculous catch of fish (5:1-11)

Boy at Nain (7:11-17)

Jesus sends out 72 (10:1-24)

Parable of Good Samaritan (10:25-37)

[Luke 11-17]

Prodigal Son (15:11-32)

Rich Man and Lazarus (16:19-31)

Zacchaeus (19:1-10)

Jesus before Herod (23:6-12)

Repentant thief (23:40)

LUKE

❖ Christ the Son of Man

Luke 19:10

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.