

The Kingdom, The Power and The Glory

A SURVEY OF
THE NEW TESTAMENT
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Study Number Five / THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

- Brief Review:
1. The World Between The Testaments
 2. Jesus and the Gospels
 3. Matthew
 4. Mark

WHO WAS THE WRITER, LUKE (WHO ALSO WROTE THE BOOK OF ACTS?)

Luke was the only New Testament writer who was not a Jew. He was a physician by occupation: **Col. 4:14 Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas, greet you.**

Someone has observed: A minister sees men at their best; a lawyer sees men at their worst; and a doctor sees men as they are.

Tradition holds that Luke was also an excellent artist. There is a painting of the Virgin Mary in a Spanish cathedral that is believed by some to be the work of Luke.

The Gospel of Luke was directed at non-Jews, Gentiles, in general. In fact, both Luke and Acts are really letters addressed to a Greek nobleman whom Luke address as *most excellent Theophilus*. So how do we know that Gentile emphasis was in Luke's pen?

"Luke begins his dating from the reigning Roman emperor (Caesar Augustus) and the current Roman governor (Quirinius). Unlike Matthew, he is not greatly interested in the life of Jesus as the fulfilment of Jewish prophecy. He very seldom quotes the Old Testament at all. He never uses Jewish words such as "rabbi," but instead uses the word "Master." When he traces the descent of Jesus, he traces it not to Abraham, the founder of the Jewish race, as Matthew does but to Adam, the founder of the human race."

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1 As you study Luke you will notice several vital emphases:

2
3 1. Luke shows us Jesus at prayer

4 at His baptism (3:21)

5 before His first encounter with the Pharisees (5:16)

6 before selecting His disciples (6:12)

7 before his first prediction of His death (9:18)

8 at His transfiguration (9:29)

9 on the Cross (23:46)

10 for Peter in his hour of testing (22:32)

11 etc.

12
13 2. Luke shows clearly Jesus positive attitude toward women

14 He writes of Jesus' birth from a woman's point of view

15 Luke tells us of Anna, of the widow at Nain, of the woman who anointed Jesus'
16 feet

17 He paints vivid pictures of Martha, Mary and Mary Magdalene

18
19 3. Luke had no racial or discriminating concepts

20 He tells us of the Good Samaritan

21 He tells the story of the leprous Samaritan who showed gratitude

22 He shows Jesus speaking in love and compassion to non-Jews Luke 13:29

23 And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the
24 south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God.

25 He tells of Jesus praising the Roman centurion for his faith

26 Luke makes it clear how Jesus felt about the poor Luke 7:22

27 Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have
28 seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf
29 hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.

30 Jesus is shown as the friend of outcasts and sinners. It is Luke who relates the
31 story of the woman who anointed Jesus' feet in chapter 7. He writes of Zaccheus the tax
32 collector in chapter 19. It is Luke who gives us Jesus' immortal story of the prodigal
33 son (chapter 15).

34
35 You will find Luke's gospel gentle and kind as we study it together.

36
37 4. Luke served several years as a traveling companion and aide to the Apostle Paul.

38 For example, we read in **Acts 16:10** **And after he had seen the vision, immediately**
39 **we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called**
40 **us for to preach the gospel unto them.**

41 Luke was with Paul on the second and probably third missionary journey. Notably

1 he was with Paul and Silas when they invaded Europe for Christ, crossing into Greece at
2 Neapolis (current day Kavala) and then up over the mountain into Philippi.

3
4 We know that Luke was present with Paul when the apostle was suffering in Nero's
5 death dungeon. Paul himself wrote, **2 Tim. 4:11 Only Luke is with me.**
6
7

BASIC OUTLINE OF LUKE'S GOSPEL

- I. Jesus' Birth Chapters / chapters 1 - 3
- II. The Beginning of Jesus' Ministry in Galilee / chapter 4
- III. Jesus' Ministry in Galilee / chapters 5 - 9
- IV. Enroute to Jerusalem / Chapters 10-18
- V. In Jericho and Jerusalem / Chapters 19-21
- VI. Betrayal, Trial and Death of Jesus / chapters 22 - 23
- VII. Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus / chapter 24

CHAPTER ONE

Luke 1:1-4

8
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11
12 **Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of**
13 **those things which are most surely believed among us, [2] Even as they delivered**
14 **them unto us, which from the beginning were eyewitnesses, and ministers of the**
15 **word; [3] It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things**
16 **from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus, [4] That**
17 **thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed.**
18
19

20 The identity of Theophilus is uncertain. Some scholars believe he was a wealthy relative
21 of Caesar; others that he was a well-to-do friend of Luke's. An even more interesting
22 speculation is that Theophilus was not the real name of this person at all, but rather a
23 pseudonym used by Luke to keep the fellow's real identity a secret to keep him from
24 potential persecution. Take your pick!

25
26 John the Baptist

27
28 In chapter 1, verses 5 - 25 and verses 57 - 80 we learn of the birth of the man who will be
29 the herald or forerunner of Christ, John the Baptist. He was born to a priest (Zacharias)
30 and his wife Elisabeth after they had come to old age. **Luke 1:18 And Zacharias**
31 **said unto the angel, Whereby shall I know this? for I am an old man, and my wife**
32 **well stricken in years.**

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

1
2
3 • In verse 27, the physician Luke makes it clear that Jesus was born of a virgin. The
4 Father was God Himself. **Luke 1:35** **And the angel answered and said unto her,**
5 **The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall**
6 **overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be**
7 **called the Son of God.**

8
9 If Jesus was not born in this miraculous way, then the Bible is not worth the paper it's
10 printed on; and, further, you have no salvation or eternal life. Jesus, the Son of God,
11 was born of God and Mary in order to become the perfect sacrifice on Calvary. Nothing
12 less would have been satisfactory to God Himself.

CHAPTER TWO

13
14
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16 • This beloved chapter tells the world of the taxation under Augustus, of the
17 announcement by the angels to the shepherds in their fields and the dedication of Christ
18 in the great Temple.

19
20 • The chapter also tells us the remarkable story of Jesus' visit to the Temple in
21 Jerusalem when He was just 12 years old.

Luke 2:41-52

22
23 **Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover. [42]**
24 **And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of**
25 **the feast. [43] And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus**
26 **tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it. [44] But**
27 **they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they**
28 **sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance. [45] And when they found him**
29 **not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him. [46] And it came to pass,**
30 **that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the**
31 **doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. [47] And all that heard him**
32 **were astonished at his understanding and answers. [48] And when they saw him,**
33 **they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with**
34 **us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. [49] And he said unto**
35 **them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's**
36 **business? [50] And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them. [51]**
37 **And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them:**
38 **but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. [52] And Jesus increased in**
39 **wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.**

CHAPTER THREE THROUGH SIX

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- Chapter 3 deals with the temptation of Jesus. Our Lord overcame Satan’s wiles by THE WORD. “It is written,” He said. Nothing resists Satan more than the written Word of God.

- Jesus then returned to the north, to Galilee, and began His ministry. He was rejected in Nazareth. It was at this time that Jesus moved to Capernaum, on the Sea of Galilee, where He continued His work.

- In chapter six, we are given the list of Jesus’ disciples:

Luke 6:12-16

And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

[13] And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles; [14] Simon, (whom he also named Peter,) and Andrew his brother, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew, [15] Matthew and Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called Zelotes, [16] And Judas the brother of James, and Judas Iscariot, which also was the traitor.

Luke emphasizes in verse 13 that Jesus CALLED His disciples. **John 15:16**

Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

Being in the ministry is definitely “a calling.” In my case, it was a definite life-long realization that preaching and teaching would be my life’s work. I might have chosen something else, probably the media news business, but God called me to this work. Once you have been called, you cannot shrug off that call. It stays with you forever.

CHAPTERS SEVEN, EIGHT AND NINE

- These chapters contain even more records of our Lord’s healing power. Only Luke informs us of the raising of the dead son of the widow of Nain.

Luke 7:11-16

Not long after that, Jesus went to the village Nain. His disciples were with him, along with quite a large crowd. [12] As they approached the village gate, they met a funeral procession—a woman's only son was being carried out for burial. And the mother was a widow. [13] When Jesus saw her, his heart broke. He said to her, "Don't cry." [14] Then he went over and touched the coffin. The pallbearers stopped. He said, "Young man, I tell you: Get up." [15] The dead son sat up and

1 began talking. Jesus presented him to his mother.

2 [16] They all realized they were in a place of holy mystery, that God was at work
3 among them. They were quietly worshipful—and then noisily grateful, calling out
4 among themselves, "God is back, looking to the needs of his people!"
5

6 Some years back, a friend of mine and I walked up the hill to the little village of Nain and
7 there visited the cemetery where this story took place. I had chills up and down my back
8 as I tried to visualize what it was like that day when Jesus met the funeral procession
9 there and raised that boy to life again. It is noted in some commentaries that Jesus
10 used the same method in raising others from the dead: He spoke directly to them.

11 That's what will happen at the GREAT RESURRECTION: 1 Thes. 4:16-17

12 **For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the**
13 **archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: [17]**
14 **Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the**
15 **clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.**
16

- 17 ● In chapter 7, Jesus commends His cousin, John the Baptist: Luke 7:26-29

18 **But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? Yea, I say unto you, and much more**
19 **than a prophet. [27] This is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger**
20 **before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. [28] For I say unto you,**
21 **Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the**
22 **Baptist: but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he. [29] And all**
23 **the people that heard him, and the publicans, justified God, being baptized with the**
24 **baptism of John.**
25

- 26 ● In chapter 8, Jesus calmed the storm. On the eastern side of the Sea of Galilee, He
27 repelled the demons from a man.
28

- 29 ● In chapter 9, Jesus was transfigured. Luke 9:28-31

30 **About eight days after saying this, he climbed the mountain to pray, taking Peter,**
31 **John, and James along. [29] While he was in prayer, the appearance of his face**
32 **changed and his clothes became blinding white. [30] At once two men were there**
33 **talking with him. They turned out to be Moses and Elijah— [31] and what a**
34 **glorious appearance they made! They talked over his exodus, the one Jesus was**
35 **about to complete in Jerusalem.**
36

37 I believe God sent Moses and Elijah to minister to Jesus as He approached His
38 crucifixion in Jerusalem.
39

40 Remember that Moses was not allowed to lead the Children of Israel into the promised
41 land after his fit of pique over the water in the rock. (Numbers 20) He died on Mount

1 Nebo on the eastern side of the Dead Sea and Jordan River where God buried him. But
2 now he gets to stand on Mount Hermon in the north end of Israel to see Christ
3 transfigured before His very eyes.

4 5 CHAPTERS TEN THROUGH TWELVE 6

7 ● In chapter ten, Jesus pronounced judgment on the three downs He knew so well on the
8 north end of the Sea of Galilee:

9 Luke 10:10-15

10 "When you enter a town and are not received, go out in the street and say, [11]
11 'The only thing we got from you is the dirt on our feet, and we're giving it back. Did
12 you have any idea that God's kingdom was right on your doorstep?' [12] Sodom will
13 have it better on Judgment Day than the town that rejects you.

14 [13] "Doom, Chorazin! Doom, Bethsaida! If Tyre and Sidon had been given half
15 the chances given you, they'd have been on their knees long ago, repenting and
16 crying for mercy. [14] Tyre and Sidon will have it easy on Judgment Day compared
17 to you.

18 [15] "And you, Capernaum! Do you think you're about to be promoted to
19 heaven? Think again. You're on a mud slide to hell.

20
21 Is it possible that the greatest sin of all is unbelief?
22

23 ● Chapter Ten also gives us the story of the Good Samaritan. Luke 10:30-37
24 Jesus answered by telling a story. "There was once a man traveling from
25 Jerusalem to Jericho. On the way he was attacked by robbers. They took his clothes,
26 beat him up, and went off leaving him half-dead. [31] Luckily, a priest was on his
27 way down the same road, but when he saw him he angled across to the other side.
28 [32] Then a Levite religious man showed up; he also avoided the injured man.

29 [33] "A Samaritan traveling the road came on him. When he saw the man's
30 condition, his heart went out to him. [34] He gave him first aid, disinfecting and
31 bandaging his wounds. Then he lifted him on to his donkey, led him to an inn, and
32 made him comfortable. [35] In the morning he took out two silver coins and gave
33 them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take good care of him. If it costs any more, put it on
34 my bill—I'll pay you on my way back.'

35 [36] "What do you think? Which of the three became a neighbor to the man
36 attacked by robbers?"

37 [37] "The one who treated him kindly," the religion scholar responded.

38 Jesus said, "Go and do the same."
39

40 One commentator has observed: *The philosophy of the Good Samaritan was, "What I*
41 *have belongs to you."* *This is a Christian philosophy of life. "What I have is yours*

1 *if I can help you.” Any person you can help is your neighbor.*

2
3 ● In chapter 11, Jesus dealt with demons. He also taught His disciples how to pray

4
5 ● In chapter 12 we find the story of the rich fool. **Luke 12:16-21**

6 **Then he told them this story: "The farm of a certain rich man produced a terrific**
7 **crop. [17] He talked to himself: 'What can I do? My barn isn't big enough for this**
8 **harvest.' [18] Then he said, 'Here's what I'll do: I'll tear down my barns and build**
9 **bigger ones. Then I'll gather in all my grain and goods, [19] and I'll say to myself,**
10 **"Self, you've done well! You've got it made and can now retire. Take it easy and**
11 **have the time of your life!" '**

12 **[20] "Just then God showed up and said, 'Fool! Tonight you die. And your**
13 **barnful of goods—who gets it?'**

14 **[21] "That's what happens when you fill your barn with Self and not with God."**

15
16 CHAPTERS 13 AND 14

17
18 ● At this point, Jesus is heading for Jerusalem, there to be crucified. Along the way
19 south, He heals the sick, teaches in parables and ministers to those in need.

20
21 ● As He came over the backside of the Mount of Olives, the panorama of the Holy City
22 lay before Him, directly to the west, Jesus' heart was broken and He lamented, **Luke**
23 **13:34-35**

24 **Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killer of prophets,**
25 **abuser of the messengers of God!**

26 **How often I've longed to gather your children,**
27 **gather your children like a hen,**
28 **Her brood safe under her wings—**
29 **but you refused and turned away!**

30 **[35] And now it's too late: You won't see me again**
31 **until the day you say,**
32 **'Blessed is he**
33 **who comes in**
34 **the name of God.' "**

35
36 ● Chapter 14 tells of Jesus dining at the home of a Pharisee and several parables.

37
38 CHAPTER 15

39
40 ● Chapter 15 is a classic one, in which we receive three stories from Jesus:

1 Verses 3 - 7 The Parable of the lost sheep

2 **Luke 15:3-7**

3 [4] "Suppose one of you had a hundred sheep and lost one. Wouldn't you leave
4 the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the lost one until you found it? [5]
5 When found, you can be sure you would put it across your shoulders, rejoicing, [6]
6 and when you got home call in your friends and neighbors, saying, 'Celebrate with
7 me! I've found my lost sheep!' [7] Count on it—there's more joy in heaven over one
8 sinner's rescued life than over ninety-nine good people in no need of rescue.

9
10 In the case of the sheep, it was lost and didn't even know it. That's the story of
11 much of the world, eternally lost and not aware. This makes our missions outreach
12 mandatory: **Romans 10:13-15**

13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. [14] How then
14 shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in
15 him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?
16 [15] And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful
17 are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good
18 things!

19
20 Verses 8 - 10 The Parable of the Lost Coin

21 **Luke 15:8-10**

22 Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light
23 a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it? [9] And when she
24 hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice
25 with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost. [10] Likewise, I say unto you,
26 there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

27
28 It could have been the law of gravity that pulled the coin from the woman's hand or
29 purse, a force over which the coin had no control. Think of the millions who are lost
30 today because of addictions they cannot break, such as booze, drugs, pornography, etc.

31
32 **Luke 15:11-32**

33 Then he said, "There was once a man who had two sons. [12] The younger said to
34 his father, 'Father, I want right now what's coming to me.'

35 "So the father divided the property between them. [13] It wasn't long before the
36 younger son packed his bags and left for a distant country. There, undisciplined and
37 dissipated, he wasted everything he had. [14] After he had gone through all his
38 money, there was a bad famine all through that country and he began to hurt. [15]
39 He signed on with a citizen there who assigned him to his fields to slop the pigs. [16]
40 He was so hungry he would have eaten the corncobs in the pig slop, but no one
41 would give him any.

1 [17] "That brought him to his senses. He said, 'All those farmhands working for
2 my father sit down to three meals a day, and here I am starving to death. [18] I'm
3 going back to my father. I'll say to him, 'Father, I've sinned against God, I've
4 sinned before you; [19] I don't deserve to be called your son. Take me on as a hired
5 hand.'" ' [20] He got right up and went home to his father.

6 "When he was still a long way off, his father saw him. His heart pounding, he ran
7 out, embraced him, and kissed him. [21] The son started his speech: 'Father, I've
8 sinned against God, I've sinned before you; I don't deserve to be called your son
9 ever again.'

10 [22] "But the father wasn't listening. He was calling to the servants, 'Quick. Bring
11 a clean set of clothes and dress him. Put the family ring on his finger and sandals on
12 his feet. [23] Then get a grain-fed heifer and roast it. We're going to feast! We're
13 going to have a wonderful time! [24] My son is here—given up for dead and now
14 alive! Given up for lost and now found!' And they began to have a wonderful time.

15 [25] "All this time his older son was out in the field. When the day's work was
16 done he came in. As he approached the house, he heard the music and dancing. [26]
17 Calling over one of the houseboys, he asked what was going on. [27] He told him,
18 'Your brother came home. Your father has ordered a feast—barbecued beef!—
19 because he has him home safe and sound.'

20 [28] "The older brother stalked off in an angry sulk and refused to join in. His
21 father came out and tried to talk to him, but he wouldn't listen. [29] The son said,
22 'Look how many years I've stayed here serving you, never giving you one moment of
23 grief, but have you ever thrown a party for me and my friends? [30] Then this son of
24 yours who has thrown away your money on whores shows up and you go all out
25 with a feast!'

26 [31] "His father said, 'Son, you don't understand. You're with me all the time,
27 and everything that is mine is yours— [32] but this is a wonderful time, and we had
28 to celebrate. This brother of yours was dead, and he's alive! He was lost, and he's
29 found!' "

30
31 There is no one who cannot be reached with the Gospel because of the amazing grace
32 and love of God.

33 CHAPTERS 16 AND 17

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35
36 ● In these chapters, Jesus: gives more parables, speaks on divorce, and tells the story
37 of the rich man and Lazarus (the poor man, not the one who lived in Bethany). In
38 chapter 17, Jesus healed ten lepers and only one, a Samaritan returned to say thank you.

39
40
41 ● In chapter 17, Jesus gave clear instructions that He would return to this earth one day.

1 CHAPTERS 18 - 20

2
3 ● Jesus enters Jericho, makes His way up the Mount of Olives, and enters Jerusalem.
4 Here we read of Jesus riding into the city on the back of a colt. Here is the story of
5 Jesus' cleansing of the Temple. (In order for worshipers, who came from all over that
6 part of the world to sacrifice, to purchase sheep or goats, etc., they had to have Temple
7 money. The exchange rate for that money was outrageous and it was this that triggered
8 Jesus to upset their tables and run them off.
9

10 THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

11
12 ● The remainder of the book contains the marvelous story of our Lord's betrayal, trial,
13 death and resurrection.
14

15 ● The sad saga of Peter's boast, which resulted in denial of Christ, is told us in chapter
16 22. **Luke 22:31-34**

17 **"Simon, stay on your toes. Satan has tried his best to separate all of you from me,**
18 **like chaff from wheat. [32] Simon, I've prayed for you in particular that you not**
19 **give in or give out. When you have come through the time of testing, turn to your**
20 **companions and give them a fresh start."**

21 [33] Peter said, "Master, I'm ready for anything with you. I'd go to jail for you.
22 I'd die for you!"

23 [34] Jesus said, "I'm sorry to have to tell you this, Peter, but before the rooster
24 crows you will have three times denied that you know me."
25

26 ● In chapter 22 we also find the story of our Lord's agony in Gethsemane, when He
27 drank the cup of mankind's iniquity.
28

29 ● From Gethsemane, Jesus was taken to Caiaphas' house for an early morning mock-
30 trial. From there He was taken to the Antonia Fortress where Pontius Pilate awaited
31 Him. From there He was taken to the west end of town to Herod's palace, only to be
32 ridiculed again. Then back to Pilate who condemned Him to the cross.
33

34 ● The timing of all this was probably something like this:

35
36 Thursday April 6 AD 30

37 1. Jesus and His men have the last supper on Mount Zion and Judas leaves early to
38 set up the betrayal

39 2. About nine o'clock or so, Jesus leads His remaining men from the Upper Room
40 down the old stone steps (still there) to the Kidron Valley, just near the Pool of Siloam,
41 where they turn left, or north and make their way up the valley along the east side of

1 Jerusalem.

2 3. About ten p.m, they arrive at the Garden. Jesus leaves eight of His men at the
3 entrance to the olive tree grove and takes Peter, James and John further in where He
4 instructs them to watch and pray. There He drinks the cup of sin.

5 4. Around midnight, the Temple guards come down the opposite side of the valley,
6 torches aloft, making them look like a fiery, writing snake coming into the valley. They
7 come to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus is betrayed by Judas and arrested. The
8 disciples flee.

9 5. Sometime around one in the morning Jesus is thrown into the steep dungeon
10 beneath Caiaphas' home.

11 6. About 5:30 or 6 on Friday morning, April 7, AD 30, Jesus is hauled out of the
12 dungeon and put on mock trial before the Sanhedrin (70 ruling elders). He is
13 condemned and taken across town to the Antonia Fortress to be confronted by Pilate.

14 7. By 9 o'clock that morning, He has been also to Herod and back to Pilate, flogged
15 nearly to death, and carries His cross to Golgotha, existing the old city of Jerusalem via
16 the Damascus Gate and up to Calvary - about a thousand yards away.

17 8. By 3 that afternoon, Jesus had died on the cross and the burial ensues.

18
19 But, as my friend Tony Campolo relates, "AH, BUT THAT WAS FRIDAY.....SUNDAY
20 WAS COMING!"

21 Luke 24:1-8

22 **At the crack of dawn on Sunday, the women came to the tomb carrying the burial**
23 **spices they had prepared. [2] They found the entrance stone rolled back from the**
24 **tomb, [3] so they walked in. But once inside, they couldn't find the body of the**
25 **Master Jesus.**

26
27 **[4] They were puzzled, wondering what to make of this. Then, out of nowhere it**
28 **seemed, two men, light cascading over them, stood there. [5] The women were**
29 **awestruck and bowed down in worship. The men said, "Why are you looking for the**
30 **Living One in a cemetery? [6] He is not here, but raised up. Remember how he told**
31 **you when you were still back in Galilee [7] that he had to be handed over to sinners,**
32 **be killed on a cross, and in three days rise up?" [8] Then they remembered Jesus'**
33 **words.**

34
35 Jesus remained on earth another forty days in His glorified, resurrected body. This same
36 Luke makes these things clear in the first chapter of his book of Acts:

37 Acts 1:1-8

38 **Dear Theophilus, in the first volume of this book I wrote on everything that Jesus**
39 **began to do and teach [2] until the day he said goodbye to the apostles, the ones he**
40 **had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. [3] After his death,**
41

1 he presented himself alive to them in many different settings over a period of forty
2 days. In face-to-face meetings, he talked to them about things concerning the
3 kingdom of God. [4] As they met and ate meals together, he told them that they were
4 on no account to leave Jerusalem but "must wait for what the Father promised: the
5 promise you heard from me. [5] John baptized in water; you will be baptized in the
6 Holy Spirit. And soon."

7 [6] When they were together for the last time they asked, "Master, are you going
8 to restore the kingdom to Israel now? Is this the time?"

9 [7] He told them, "You don't get to know the time. Timing is the Father's
10 business. [8] What you'll get is the Holy Spirit. And when the Holy Spirit comes on
11 you, you will be able to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all over Judea and Samaria,
12 even to the ends of the world."

13
14 Our Christ-given commission remains the same: Be filled with the Spirit and take the
15 whole Gospel to the whole world.

16
17
18
19 *Next Wednesday, January 21, 2009, THE BOOK OF JOHN*