

REL 1310 – Christian Scriptures

Hello and welcome to the weekly resources for REL-1310!

These resources are structured a bit differently from other online study guides on the Baylor Tutoring website because the content in these courses are organized largely around biblical histories and narratives. Please take a look at other weekly resources listed on our website for additional topics from Christian Scriptures throughout the semester. Your professor might be discussing these topics in a different order than presented here.

We also invite you to take a look at the group tutoring chart on our website to see if this course has a group tutoring session offered this semester.

If you have any questions about these study guides, group tutoring sessions, private 30-minute tutoring appointments, the Baylor Tutoring YouTube channel or any tutoring services we offer, please visit our website www.baylor.edu/tutoring or call our drop-in center during open business hours, M-Th 9am-8pm on class days, at 254-710-4135.

The Gospel of Luke



Images were retrieved from Creative Commons.

Fast Facts

- Part 1 of a 2-part series (Acts is part 2)
- Tradition says Luke is the author.
- Written 85-90 CE
- Audience: Gentile (non-Jewish) Christians
- Addressed to "Theophilus"
- **Includes a prominent role of women**
- Emphasis on prayer & the Holy Spirit
- Portrays Christianity as a religion of justice
- Emphasizes God's compassion for outcasts & concern for the lonely
- Portrays Jesus as the savior for all people

Summary

- Jesus birth & childhood (chapters 1-2)
 - o Mary is seen as the main character of this section.

- An angel appeared to a man named Zechariah. He told him that he would have a baby and that the baby's name would be John. Zechariah doubted this, so the angel made it where he could not speak until the baby was born. The baby was born, and he became John the Baptist.
- The angel Gabriel appeared to Mary, a virgin who was married to a man named Joseph, in a similar way, and told her that she would give birth to the son of God.
- After hearing this, Mary sang a song of praise, called **the Magnificat**.
- Genealogy
 - A genealogy is a list of names that show a person's ancestors.
 - Luke's genealogy traces Jesus back to Abraham, the father of the Jewish people, and also to Adam, the father of the human race.
- Ministry in Galilee (chapters 4-9)
 - Jesus is portrayed as a prophet.
 - Jesus talks about God's care for Gentiles in addition to Jews.
 - Sermon on the Plain: Blessings on the poor and weak
 - Jesus' disciples seem to misunderstand Jesus' message and fight over who is the greatest between them.
- Journey to Jerusalem (chapters 9-19)
 - Jesus is rejected by many but shows mercy and compassion.
 - Jesus dedicates 72 disciples plus his 12 closest disciples to go out and share his message.
 - Jesus meets with Mary & Martha:
 - Mary sits to learn at his feet, but Martha is so concerned with appearing good for him that she cleans the house instead of talking to him.
 - Jesus tells the parable of the prodigal son:
 - An old rich man promises to give his two sons an inheritance when he dies.
 - The younger son wants to receive the inheritance before the father dies, so he gets it and unwisely spends it all.
 - He returns to his father's house humiliated, but the father celebrates his return.
 - The older son who was wiser is angry that the younger son's return is celebrated while he gets nothing.
 - This parable represents how God the Father is always willing to accept his children back, but it also represents how arrogant it is if someone thinks they deserve more recognition for being religious.
 - Jesus tells the parable of the Good Samaritan:
 - This parable is told to a Jewish audience (as Jesus was a Jew).
 - Two highly respected Jewish leaders did not help an injured man on the side of the road.
 - But a Samaritan (social enemy of the Jews) did.
 - This parable shows that it is more important to help those who are rejected and marginalized than to be obsessed with religious practice and appearing like you're doing what's right.
 - Jesus tells the parable of the rich man & Lazarus:

- A rich man ignores helping a poor man named Lazarus.
 - Lazarus goes to heaven while the rich man goes to hell.
 - Zaccheus, a small tax collector, did everything he could to see Jesus. Jesus ate dinner with him.
- Jesus in Jerusalem (chapters 19-24)
 - Jesus enters Jerusalem as a king would.
 - Jesus goes into the temple to ‘cleanse’ it.
 - Jesus has the Last Supper with his disciples. Luke is the only book to include Jesus saying, “do this in remembrance of me.”
 - Jesus is arrested and attends a hearing.
 - Jesus is sent to Pontious Pilate (governor of Judea), who send him to Herod Antipas (ruler of Galilee)
 - Jesus’ sayings while on the cross:
 - “Father forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”
 - To the prisoner on the cross who believed in him: “Today you will be with me in paradise.”
 - “Father, into your hands I command my spirit.”
 - Once Jesus is raised from the dead, women discover his tomb with angels standing by it.
 - The resurrected Jesus appeared to a couple of people on the road to Emmaus.
 - The resurrected Jesus appeared in Jerusalem.
 - The resurrected Jesus appeared to his disciples and was carried up to heaven.

Test your knowledge!

Answers are at the bottom of the document.

- 1) The Gospel of Luke is notable for its positive portrayal of...
 - a. Pharisees
 - b. Roman leaders
 - c. Women
 - d. Jesus’ 12 disciples
- 2) Aside from the 12 disciples, how many disciples did Jesus send out on his way to Jerusalem?
 - a. 7
 - b. 12
 - c. 40
 - d. 72
- 3) Why is the parable of the Good Samaritan shocking in its first-century context?
 - a. It was frowned upon by the community to help people.
 - b. Samaritans were looked down upon by Jesus’ Jewish audience.
 - c. It was spoken in another language through tongues.
 - d. Even though it portrayed one Samaritan positively, it portrayed the rest as a whole to be bad.
- 4) What is the Magnificat?

- a. Jesus' final words on the cross
 - b. Jesus' message at the last supper
 - c. The place where Jesus was born
 - d. The song Mary sang once she learned she was pregnant with Jesus
- 5) Which of these does the Gospel of Luke NOT document that Jesus said on the cross?
- a. 'Father forgive them, for they do not know what they do.'
 - b. 'Today you will be with me in paradise.'
 - c. 'Father, into your hands I command my spirit.'
 - d. 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'

Answers: 1) c. 2) d. 3) b. 4) d. 5) d. Explanation: Jesus says 'my God my God, why have you forsaken me' in Matthew and Mark, but not in Luke.