

NT Lit Study Guide: Exam II: Luke – Acts

Know the memory verses from John 1:1, 12; 3:16; 14:6 and Rom. 3:23, 6:23, 8:28; 12:1-2.
Lecture Questions from lectures 8-18 (skip 19 as they will not be ready in time)

MARK

1. Demonstrate a knowledge of the background of the person of John Mark and his relationship with Barnabas, changing relationship with Paul, and Peter.
How may that have shaped the themes of his book?
2. What internal features suggest that Mark is the author of the book of Mark (relationship with Peter; possible personal touches)? Does Peter ever make that connection himself? Give an example of two godly people who disagreed so strongly they separated in the NT? How is Mark usually dated (before/after) the other synoptic gospels?
3. What stories ironically do not occur in the book of Mark regarding Peter? Which ones do?
4. Why was the book of Mark dated before AD 65 and why do some want it dated after AD 70? What is vaticinium post eventum and what passage bothers those folks? What kinds of things manifest a Roman/Gentile orientation of the book? What two geographical “contradiction” are often cited in Mark and how were they handled?
5. What book alone is called a “gospel” and what does that mean?
6. What are the characteristics of the book of Mark? What example is there of each? – non-Jewish audience, geographical contradictions (problems and possible solutions), portrayal of Jesus, vividness of Mark, favorite word and tense? How is the term “Son of Man” used in the Gospels (IASED)? How is that term connected to Dan. 7:13 and 1 Thes. 4:16-18?
7. What is the Messianic secret and how did it function differently with three different groups (demons, disciples, those healed)?
7. How do miracles function differently in Mark than in John? What roles do miracles play in the gospel narratives? How did the disciples and opponents react to him in Mark? How did the minor characters differ in their reactions to Jesus than the disciples in the context of the three boat stories? Who in the book of Mark “gets it”? How does Mark portray Christ?
8. Forgives sin: Is there ever a connection between sin and sickness in the Bible? Why did Jesus say healing was harder than forgiving sins (couple ways to look at it (argument a fortiori or visible/invisible)? What is a problem with faith-healing in some contexts? What conclusion did those present make when Jesus told the paralytic his sins were forgiven? Why did Jesus switch from healing the paralytic to forgiving sin in relation to the “Son of Man” terms?
10. What is the major textual problem in the book of Mark and how does the short ending fit with the minor character themes? What significance does the short ending have for us and the Christians at Rome?
11. What types of things are found in the Long Ending of Mark?

LUKE

1. What elimination procedure was used to determine Luke as the writer of the book of Luke? "We" procedure. To whom was the gospel of Luke written? Does the book of Luke reflect medical language? What indications are there that Luke was written by a Gentile?
2. What five points were brought out in relation to Luke 1:1-4?
3. From what major first hand source did Luke get much of his material? What is the proof for that?
4. What are the characteristics of the book of Luke (HHDSPPP)? Be able to discuss and develop each; minus the Holy Spirit emphasis.
5. In the parable of the good Samaritan how does Jesus redirect the lawyers original question? How does the lawyer indicate that after hearing the parable of the Good Samaritan he still doesn't get it?
6. How is the story of Zacchaeus to be re-read in relation to the story of the Rich Young Ruler?
7. What material is unique to Luke? How is Jesus portrayed in Luke?
8. What is the Jesus prayer? What does Luke have to say about prayer?

SYNOPTIC PROBLEM:

1. What is the synoptic problem? What are a couple examples where they are exactly similar? What are two specific examples of the problem? How are the synoptic gospels similar/different?
2. Be able to think through the temple cleansing variations in the synoptics and John.
3. What are the one, two, and four source theories and why was each proposed? What is the Q source and what is its function?
4. With what categories does form criticism approach the synoptic problem?
5. What are suggested methods for solving the various synoptic problems? (Q TTWPP)

John:

1. What support can be given to the following concerning John as a person: his Jewishness, Palestinian background and his eyewitness accounts of events he in his book. What was John by trade?
2. What are three situations in which John's special intimacy with Christ can be seen?
3. How did John possibly portray himself in this gospel? Where did John spend his later life?
4. What purposes does John seem to be addressing (BEGS)? Who was Cerinthus and what modern teaching parallel his views? How did John refute the errors of Cerinthus/JWs?
5. How would you response to the Jehovah Witness' claim that Jesus was "a god," created, but not of the same essence as Jehovah God? If a person said Jesus was "a" god not the God, what are three passages in John you could use to discuss the issue with the person. What are three passages in Revelations that would help bolster your argument? How does 2 Peter 1:1 and Titus 2:13 contribute to that discussion? Why is this issue important?
6. What does the Bible say about drinking wine? How does that relate to cultural issues today?
7. How is John a synoptic supplement? What are several things found in the Synoptic gospels but not in John?
8. John doesn't use parables so how does he develop Christ's teaching?
9. How is the Holy Spirit introduced in John?
10. John gives interesting character portrayals. What are some people he gives interesting insight into? How did Jesus work with Nathaniel, Nicodemus, the woman of Samaria and how was "doubting" Thomas developed/portrayed in class?
11. What are some words that are characteristic to John's book?

Acts: However far we get on Thursday: skip this section as there are no questions built yet

1. To whom was the book of Acts written? How is the writing of the book of Act related to Paul's current situation and how does it relate to the book of Luke?

2. How does the book of Acts develop structurally (missionary, mission field and home base)? What are the "we" passages in the book of Acts and what do they tell us? What role do the summary statements play in the book of Acts? When was Acts written and how do we know that? What is the key verse of the book of Acts that outlines the structure of the book?
3. Why is Acts NOT considered a complete history of the early church? What types of things are missing?
4. How does Luke describe life in the early church (POPU)? What was the leadership structure of the early church like (APED)?
5. Why does Luke emphasize speeches in his book? What are some major examples?
6. How are Peter's sermons in Acts paralleled by comments in 1 Peter?
7. How are Peter and Paul paralleled in the book of Acts?
8. What is the contradiction between Acts 1 and Mat. 27 over Judas? How do you handle that?
9. What two silences indicate the book of Acts was written before A.D. 70?
10. What four occasions in Acts does the Holy Spirit come and what is the significance of each?
11. Are all the things in Acts normative for today? What are four ways of looking at that? How does one distinguish between historical material and normative universal principles that are contained within historical narratives?