Luke’s Background

- Question: Was Luke a Doctor?
- Medical language? 4:38; 5:12
- Josephus too;
- Col 4:14—Paul calls him “beloved physician”

Luke Gentile or Jewish?

- Gentile descent –
  - Jesus never speaks Aramaic
  - Hebrew names avoided (no Satan, Gethsemane or Golgotha), no hosannas,
  - Grouped with Gentiles in Col. 4:10-14;
  - Acts 1:19—Aceldama, in their language,
  - Explains locations 1:26
  - OT quotes—mostly only in mouth of Jesus

Are Acts and Luke related?

- Acts & Luke both to Theophilus (28% of NT)
- Luke 1:1-4: Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us,
- Acts 1:1: In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach (Act 1:1 NIV)

Luke and Acts related

- Not anonymous – Luke 1:3
- Picks up story where Luke left off
- Vocabulary (800 hapax legomena) and style similar

Luke 1:1-4 and Inspiration process

- Question: If Luke was not Jewish, not a disciple or not an eyewitness who saw Jesus how does he get to write a gospel?
- What is the relation of inspiration and historical research? [FRASES] Lk. 1:1-4
- Not FIRST hand information
- Does RESEARCH
Many ACCOUNTS available

SYSTEMATIC orderly account his goal

EYEWITNESSES – keenly aware of

SOURCES used by Luke

Where did Luke get his info.?

Where did Luke’s get his information from?

- Paul, Silas – 2MJ
- 2 Years in Israel while Paul in prison in Caesarea
- Peter and Mark at Rome (2 Tim. 4:11f)
- Mary [1:29; 2:19,33, 51], in Israel while Paul was in jail at Caesarea 2 yrs.

Date

- Before Acts (65 AD) Paul still living awaiting first trial in Rome
- After 70 AD prophecy after the fact
  - Vaticinium post eventum Lk. 21:20f
- Set in Roman time frame: Lk. 2:1; 3:1
- Most excellent Theophilus — community or help in Paul’s case pre-65 AD

Luke Characteristics (HH CD SSPPP)

- Humanity of Christ: 2:52 grew, 4:16
- Distinct—6 miracles, birth stories (Shepherds, Simeon, Anna), 19 parables (chs. 9-18), unique stories—e.g. Zacchaeus, Road to Emmaus
- 19 Parables unique: Good Samaritan, Rich fool’s barns, Prodigal son, persistent widow/judge, Lazarus/Dives, Pharisee and tax collector praying

Parables

- Why did Jesus use parables? Mk. 4:12
- What is a parable: 4 types
  - Simile: kingdom like mustard seed
  - Example story: Good Samaritan
  - Parable story: Banquet
How do you interpret parables?

- Jewish parables—Nathan to David (2 Sam. 12)
- Allegorically: early church—Good Samaritan
- One point: 19th century critical
- Apocalyptic versus realized eschatology
- Jesus seminar, ipsissima verba// ipsissima vox—red, pink, grey and black words
- Re-reading the Good Samaritan (Lk 10:25ff)

Parables

- Rereading the Parable of the Good Samaritan
- Why a lawyer? What’s initial question?
- Geography?
- Sociology?
- Jesus shifting question?
- Questions on the Parable of the sower
Luke—Jesus—Savior of all

- Question: How does the story about Zacchaeus play off Rich Young Ruler (RYR) story? Lk. 19
- What’s obstacle for Zach and RYR (Lk 18)?
- Zach and RYR both wealthy
- RYR keeps commandments // Zach violates them
- RYR counseled to sell all give // Zach volunteers to give
- Conclusion: RYR can wealthy be saved? Zach salvation is come to your house today-play, Abraham
- Seeking inclusio: who’s seeking whom?

Zachaeus’ seeking to salvation

Crowds

Zach Jesus

Savior of All

- 3:6 [a voice calling in the wilderness...] all have quote only Luke adds “all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”
- Universal setting: Birth—Caesar Augustus census (2:1); 15th year of Tiberius Caesar,... (3:1)
- Date problem: 2:1-7 1) no census? Quirinius census not till AD 6 [Josephus]; 2) no travel to Bethlehem ordered??

Luke Characteristics

- Songs
  - Magnificat 1:46ff
  - Benedictus 1:68ff
  - Gloria in Excelsis 2:14
  - Nunc Dimittis 2:29ff
- People interest
  - Prodigal son
Emmaus road –Cleopas
Women & children
- Poor focused on
  - Mary’s song—Magnificat
  - Evangel to poor: 4:16-19
  - Sell everything 3x—12:31; 14:33; 18:22(RYR)
  - Parables: rich fools barns (Lk 12),
  - Lazarus+Dives -- on heaven/hell reversal of this life (Lk 16)
  - Riches for good ends (Lk 8:1-3)

Prayer in Luke
- Prayer—8x Jesus (7 only in this gospel)
- Vending machine prayer: ask and you will receive (Mat 7:7)
- The Jesus prayer (of tax collector)—18:13—humility in prayer
- Woman and unjust judge 18:1-8-persistence in prayer
- Jesus in Gethsemane—3 times asks…remove the cup (Mat 26:36) –Paul thorn in flesh 2 Cor 12:7f
- Praying when it matters and when feel helpless: son in Afghanistan (Twig, Canal, that mission).
- Jim Kinney’s Bryan with Leukemia
- Rebekah’s prayer and coming to Gordon

Heaven and Hell
- Lk 16:19ff: Lazarus and the rich man
- Contrasting descriptions in this life and the next: reversals, who is named in the story?
  - Place of suffering, chasm (no escape), remembers brothers—Lazarus absent?
- They have Moses and the prophets...
- Foreshadowing Jesus—one who came back from the dead
- Is heaven/hell the point? Does now matter

NT Hell
- Three words: Sheol (OT), gehenna, hades
- Jesus more on hell than on heaven: contra modern culture (2nd chances, love, sin no big; always forgiveness therefore no problem)
Sheep/goats (Mat. 25)

- Mk 9:47ff—eye offends you; --worm dieth not, fire
- Mt. 7:22 Lord, Lord--depart from me,
- Mt. 23:23; better for Sodom than for X
- Rev. 20 lake of fire

Emmaus Road

- Luke 24:13ff
- Their understanding of Jesus: prophet, redemption of Israel
- Jesus: prophets suffering → Isa. 53 et al.
- Moses, all the prophets, Psalms = OT
- Breaking of bread → eyes opened
- Their response and ours: 24:32