

# LUKE

Luke offers a well-crafted literary account of Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit as Lord and savior of all of humanity. This gospel takes pains to show that the salvation of all of humanity is an extension, rather than a repudiation, of God's faithfulness to Israel.

Luke's Gospel emphasizes women and other marginalized groups, starting as early as Luke's birth narrative, which highlights Mary rather than Joseph (as is the case in Matthew).

Jesus appears in Luke's Gospel as a Spirit-filled prophet. Luke emphasizes the role of the Holy Spirit in empowering Jesus and continuing his mission in the world in and through the church.

The Gospel of Luke is written as a Hellenistic biography; as such it is considered the most polished canonical gospel in terms of writing and literary style. Like Matthew, Luke expands on Mark's narrative but distributes added teachings and episodes more evenly through the story in places that help move the narrative along. Luke also does more than Matthew to "fix" Mark's Greek.



Luke is part of a longer narrative unit continued by Acts. This second book shows how the apostles, by the power of the Spirit, continue Jesus' ministry in the church.



Luke and Acts contain a strong condemnation of wealth. Often Jesus' opponents are "the rich"; Luke has unique parables against amassing wealth; and the church in Acts held all goods in common in order to care for the poor.

