

2020 New Testament Reading Plan

Living Hope Fellowship, Chico

Directed Study, Week 6

Mark 15 – Luke 5

This week, we finish the second gospel and begin Luke, the longest gospel (according to word count). Mark's audience is likely Roman, Luke's immediate audience is Theophilus, likely a Greek. Certainly, these two men are writing largely to Gentile audiences and Luke is the only Gentile author of the NT. This is important to keep in mind as both authors have a "soft spot" for outsiders, Gentiles, and women as they interact with Jesus.

King

Keep in mind that Mark's emphasis is on Jesus as a preacher with authority but he came not to be served but to serve by giving his life as a ransom (10:45). Here is the KING fulfilling his mission but his conquering of enemies comes in a most unusual way: serving as substitute.

1. How many times is Jesus called "king" in Mark 15?
2. Is Jesus called anything else in this chapter?

Women

Note the prominence of the women in Mark's resurrection account (chapter 16).

Luke 1–2

These are some of the most celebrated chapters at Christmas time as they detail the birth of Jesus. Luke 1-2 are also completely unique (no material is found elsewhere), though there are some parallels to Matthew such as the virgin birth. In fact, about half of Luke is not recorded anywhere else so I will be pointing out lots of material that is in Luke alone. I trust that you will savor the journey through another perspective of Jesus Christ's ministry.

Fulfillment

Mary's song (1:46-55) and Zechariah's song (1:67-79) view the coming birth of Jesus as a fulfillment of Old Testament promises made to certain men.

3. Which men are specifically mentioned by name (God made covenants with them)?

Salvation

Simeon has a similar hope in Jesus fulfilling OT expectations but he also sees how far reaching Jesus ministry of salvation will extend (2:22-32).

4. According to Simeon's prophecy, who is to receive salvation?

Baptism

John the Baptist is the opening band for the main attraction (ch. 3). He comes as a preacher, but also as a baptizer. He knows his baptism is only the prelude to something bigger.

5. How many baptisms can you find in chapter 3 (hint, I'm looking for 3)?

Spirit

Take a pen & underline the Spirit in chapter 4. Luke tells us how Jesus' public ministry starts: resisting temptation and preaching in the power of the Spirit as he fulfills OT prophecy.

6. What passage does Jesus read for his hometown of Nazareth? What's the next line of that prophecy?