

The Good News About Jesus as Luke Wrote It

Chapter 10

HoneyBee base version for oral translation

September 2023 Draft¹

Background

- Jesus chose 12 apostles, reflecting the 12 tribes of Israel, then 70 or 72 others, reflecting the number of nations listed in Genesis 11.
- Although Luke does not call the 70/72 ‘apostles, he uses the same verb ‘to send’.
- Jewish scribes felt that they were wise law experts who taught God’s truth to others.
- In 10:22, Jesus makes himself to be a mediator between God and humans, hence an equal to Moses.
- Jews and Samaritans regarded each other as worshipping at the wrong city, so would not help religious travelers.

History

- Jesus had previously sent out his 12 apostles (Luke 9:1-6) on a similar mission to that of the 70/72 (Luke 10:1-12).
- At Bethsaida, Jesus had healed a blind man.
- At Capernaum, Jesus had healed a Roman officer’s servant, and raised to life a widow’s only son.

Themes

- Response to Jesus decides God’s judgment more than good or bad deeds.
- Rejoice over being saved more than over having spiritual power.
- “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself.”
- The thing people need most is to learn from Jesus..

Jesus chooses and sends out 72 more disciples²

¹ After that, the Lord Jesus appointed 72 other people. He prepared them to go ahead, two-by-two, to every town and village where he intended to go. ² He said to them,

“Very many people are ready to believe in me. They are like ripe grain ready for harvest in a large field. But there are not many people like you who will go tell them about me. So, pray to the Lord God, asking him to send more workers like you just as a landowner sends workers into his fields to gather a harvest.

¹ Licensed for use under Creative Commons. Text in *italics* is implied from historical or cultural context. Superscripted ^(pl) means plural, ^(sg) singular, ^(inc) inclusive, ^(exc) exclusive pronoun.

² OR Jesus sends ahead 72 other messengers to tell about him.

³ As you go, remember that I am sending you ^(pl) to places where some people will try to harm you. You will be like lambs that wolves³ try to attack. ⁴ Do not take with you any money. Do not take along a traveler's bag. Do not take extra sandals. Do not spend much time greeting people along the way.

⁵ Whenever you enter someone's house, first say to *the family leader*,⁴ 'May God give his peace to all who live in this house!' ⁶ If the leader desires peace from God, then God will give peace to the family. But if the leader does not desire to have God's peace, then you will still have God's peace, but they will not.

⁷ If the family leader welcomes you, then stay in that same house until you leave that village. |Do not move around from one house to another. Eat and drink whatever he provides for you. Remember: workers deserve to get pay from the boss for whom they work. So, this is the Lord's way to provide for your needs.

⁸ Whenever you enter a town and the people there welcome you, eat what they provide for you.

⁹ Heal the sick people who are there. Then say to them, 'God's chosen Messiah⁵ has come, and he will soon come to your town.'

¹⁰ But if you enter a town where people do not welcome you, then go into its main streets and say, ¹¹ 'Because you have refused to hear our message, we^(exc) will not only leave, we will also shake off the dust from your town that clings to our sandals. God's chosen Messiah has come to rule over you, but you have rejected his rule/him.'

¹² I will tell you this: On the day when God judges everyone, he will punish the wicked people who long ago lived in Sodom city. But he will punish more severely the people in any town where the people refused to hear your message about me!

¹³ God will punish you people who live in Chorazin and Bethsaida cities. After I did great miracles in your cities to show God's power, you did not repent/turn from your sinful behavior. If someone had done those miracles long ago in Tyre and Sidon cities, then the wicked people who lived there would have shown that they were sorry for their sins by sitting on the ground wearing coarse cloth and putting ashes on their heads.

¹⁴ On the day when God judges everyone, he will punish the wicked people who long ago lived in Tyre and Sidon cities. But he will punish you people more severely, because you refused to hear the message about me!"

¹⁵ And you people who live in Capernaum city, God will not honor you in heaven, as you imagine. Instead, God will send you down to Hades/death,⁶ because you refused to hear the message about me!"

³ OR wild beasts/animal.

⁴ The masculine pronoun 'him' likely refers to the masculine noun 'house', not to the masculine 'son/person'.

⁵ OR God's chosen King. (Literally Jesus said: 'The Kingdom of God is (standing here) in your midst!')

⁶ OR to the place where sinful people will be kept forever. OR to the underworld.

¹⁶ Then Jesus said to his disciples, “When people listen to your message, they are listening to my message. And those who reject you are also rejecting me, because it is I who sent you. And those who reject me are also rejecting God, because it is he who sent me.”

¹⁷ The 72 messengers, whom Jesus had sent ahead, returned to where he was. They were very joyful as they reported to him, “Lord, when we spoke your name, sick people became well, and even demons also obeyed us when we commanded them to come/go out from people!” ¹⁸ Jesus replied, “*While you were teaching and ministering in my name, I saw Satan fall from heaven/the sky to the ground, as suddenly and brightly as lightning strikes.*

¹⁹ *Certainly*⁷ I have authorized you^(pl) to crush/defeat these demons that are like poisonous snakes and stinging scorpions. Yes, I have given to you my power to overcome Satan and all his powerful demons. These enemies will not be able to harm you. ²⁰ But although you are rejoicing *that evil spirits obey you*, you should rejoice more that God has written your names in heaven, *so that you will have everlasting life with me.*”

²¹ At that time, the Holy Spirit caused Jesus to be very joyful. He said,

“Father, you^(sg) are the Lord who rules over heaven and over earth! You are very pleased to hide the truth about me from people who think they are wise and intelligent.⁸ And you^(sg) have revealed the truth about me to people who do not think they are intelligent.⁹ These people believe your truth as readily as little children do. Yes, Father, you decided to do this, because you are very good.”

²² Jesus also said to the 72 messengers, “God, my Father, has revealed to me all I need to know, and has given to me the power that I need to do my work. Only my Father knows who I really am. And only I know who the Father really is. But I reveal who the Father is to those whom I choose.”

²³ Then when Jesus’ disciples were alone with him, he turned towards them and said,

“God has blessed you^(pl) my disciples by allowing you to see the things that I am doing *as the Messiah whom God promised long ago to send to Israel!* ²⁴ I want you to know that many prophets and kings *who lived long ago* desired to see the things that you are seeing me do, but these things did not happen then. They longed to hear the things that you have been hearing me say, but these things were not revealed to them then.”

The kind man from Samaria¹⁰

¹²⁵ One day, as Jesus was teaching people, a man was there who studied carefully and taught the laws that God had given Moses. This Scribe wanted to ask Jesus a difficult question. So he stood up and asked, “Teacher, what must I do in order to live forever?” ²⁶ Jesus replied, “You^(sg) have read what Moses wrote in the laws that God gave him. What did Moses write about living forever?” ²⁷

⁷ OR Surely. Genesis 3:15. (When humans rebelled against God in Eden, God said that eventually a human would crush the snake’s head (and defeat Satan’s power). Messiah Jesus is the Snake Crusher and Jesus gives authority to his followers to also be able to defeat the devil.)

⁸ OR educated and smart.

⁹ OR are ordinary.

¹⁰ OR Jesus tells a story about how to show love to those in need.

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The Scribe answered, “Moses wrote this: ‘You ^(inc) must love the Lord your God with your whole self. Love God with/by how you feel, by how you behave, by how you use your strength/power, and by how you think. You must also love the people around you¹¹ in the same way you love yourself.’”²⁸ Jesus replied, “You ^(sg) have answered your own question correctly. If you do all that continually then you will live forever.”

²⁹ But because the man wanted to show that he had asked an important question,¹² he asked Jesus, “Who are the people around me that I must love?”³⁰ Jesus replied by telling him this story: “A Jewish man was once traveling¹³ along the road from Jerusalem to Jericho. Bandits attacked him. They took away the man’s clothes and everything else that he had. They beat him until he was almost dead. Then they left him *lying on/beside the road*.

³¹ Later, a Jewish priest was going along¹⁴ that road. When he saw that man, *he did not help him. Instead*, he went away from the man on the other road side.³² Similarly, a man from the Jewish Levi tribe came to that place. When he looked at the man, he also went away from the man on the other road side *and did not help him*.

³³ Then a man from Samaria province came along that road to where the man was lying *beside the road. Although most people from Samaria despise Jews*, when he saw that man, he wanted to help him.³⁴ So he came/knelt beside the man. He put some wine and olive oil on the man’s wounds¹⁵ to help heal them. He wound cloth strips around the wounds *as bandages*. Then, he placed the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn,¹⁶ and cared for him *all night*.

³⁵ The next morning he gave two silver coins¹⁷ to the innkeeper¹⁸ and said, ‘Give care to this man. If you^(sg) spend more than this amount to care for him, then I will pay you back/more when I return.’”

³⁶ Then Jesus asked *the Scribe*, “Three people saw the man whom bandits had attacked. Which one person acted in a loving way towards that man?”³⁷ The Scribe replied, “The one who showed mercy to him.” Then Jesus said to him, “You^(sg), too, must show mercy to everyone whom you can help!”

Martha and Mary invite Jesus and his disciples to eat a meal¹⁹

³⁸ As Jesus and his disciples continued to travel, they entered a village near Jerusalem. A woman whose name was Martha invited them to come to her house *to eat a meal*.³⁹ Her younger sister, whose name was Mary, sat near Jesus, listening to what he was teaching.⁴⁰ But Martha was so very busy

¹¹ OR your companions/neighbor. OR people who live near you.

¹² OR did not want to love everyone. OR wanted to ask a question that Jesus could not answer so simply/easily.

¹³ OR going down. (Jerusalem was on a hill (higher elevation than other cities), so people traveled down from Jerusalem.)

¹⁴ OR traveling along.

¹⁵ OR cleaned his wounds by pouring on wine and put on olive oil as medicine. OR he cleaned his wounds and put on medicine. (In those days people used wine and oil from olives as medicine to clean and heal wounds.)

¹⁶ OR a safe place where travelers pay money to stay at night.

¹⁷ OR some money. (At that time, one silver coin (a denarii) was the amount of money that a man earned for working one full day.)

¹⁸ OR the manager. OR man in charge.

¹⁹ OR At the home with Martha and Mary

preparing their meal, that she went to Jesus and said, “Sir/Lord, you do not seem to care that my sister has left me to prepare everything by myself! Tell her that she should help me!” ⁴¹ But the Lord replied,

“Dear Martha,²⁰ you ^(sg) are very worried about many things that distract *you from hearing me teach*. ⁴² Although people need many things, everyone really needs only one thing. Mary has chosen to receive what everyone needs most, *which is listening to my teaching and believing in me*. So I will not take this away from her.”

²⁰ OR Sister Martha. OR My sister. (Jesus respectfully addressed Martha, so however a man would do that in your culture, you may do that in your translation.)