

The Gospel of Luke 14:15–15:32

“Attitudes that matter forever”

24 & 28 December 2023

Structure of Luke’s Gospel

- 1 Preface: Sponsor, method and purpose.
- 2 Birth narratives: Dawn of the promised new era.
- 3 John’s mission: Introduce the Messiah.
- 4 Jesus’ mission: Messiah’s message and work.
- 5 **Journey: Messianic signs and teaching. Luke 9:51**
- 6 Jerusalem: Confront Israelite and Roman rulers.
- 7 Crucifixion: Last supper, arrest, trials, death.
- 8 Resurrection: Alive, appearance, and proofs.
- 9 Ascension: Gives Holy Spirit, mission to nations.

1. Attitudes towards Jesus (Luke 14)

“Not one of those who were invited will get a taste of my banquet”

Read Luke 14:15

- ‘The one’: In biblical languages = everyone.
- ‘Blessed’: happy! As a poor man enjoying a feast with friends.

‘Kingdom of God’: meanings

- God is Creator and King over everything.
- God judges lesser gods, kings, and everyone else.
- God was the national Protector over Israel.
- In Jesus’ day, believers were waiting for a Messiah-king who would defeat Israel’s enemies and make Israel great again.
- When Jesus came, he taught that he is Messiah, and that those who obey him are in God’s kingdom.
- In Christianity, King Jesus lives in us, giving us guidance, hope, joy and self-control.

Read Luke 14:16-22

What do you think of their excuses?

“I must go see the field that I bought.”

“I must go try out my new oxen.”

“I have just got married.”

What do they have in common?

- Ordinary affairs of everyday life.
- No one would buy property sight unseen.
- None counted either the master or his servant worthy of their respect.

Read Luke 14:23-24

- To whom was Jesus comparing this story?
- Why might people today choose to refuse Jesus’ offer of forgiveness and eternal life?

Read Luke 14:25-27

- Hyperbole: “obvious, intentional exaggeration” (dictionary.com).
- What does this hyperbole suggest about our loyalty to Jesus?
- What does it mean to take up one’s cross?

“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life that I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” Galatians 2:20



Criminal carrying his ‘cross’ (*patibulum*) or crossbar.

Read Luke 14:33-35

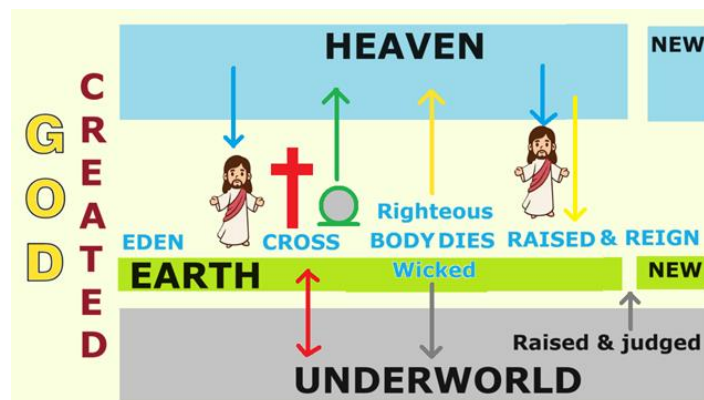
1. Attitudes towards others (Luke 15)

“There is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents”

Read Luke 15:1-7

Heaven = real place

- Heaven: Where God, Jesus, angels and we ‘saved’ folk dwell together.
- Rejoicing: happy, fulfilled, new bodies, relationships reconciled.
- Holy: No sin, evil, disease, death, demons.
- Busy: Power, intelligence, learning and skills to become all that God wants for us.
- Rewards: We will reign and rule over the world, over nations, and over angels.



Jesus' Eschatology

Read Luke 15:8-10

Read Luke 15:11-19

Repentance

1. Think rationally: 'I am in a mess'.
2. 'Jesus offers what I need'.
3. 'I will speak to Jesus':
 - 'I have sinned against God and others'.
 - 'I admit that I deserve nothing'.
 - 'Please, accept me'.
 - 'I will obey your commands'.
4. Start now.

Read Luke 15:20-24

Non-converted Christians

1. Denominations teach, 'Trust the church and its ceremonies'.
2. Evangelicals teach, 'Just accept Jesus,' or, 'Say this little prayer'.
3. Bible teaches, 'Repent & be baptized'. Acts 2:38; Eph 2:8; 1 Pet 3:21

In the Bible

- Repentance = 'Change of allegiance'.
 - Faith = faithfulness, loyalty, trust.
 - Obedience = loving Jesus enough to keep his commandments
- Repentance saves us; faith keeps us saved.

Ordo salutis

1. Chosen in Christ before creation
2. Set apart from mother's womb
3. Heard the Gospel of our salvation
4. Convicted by the Spirit of sin, judgement, righteousness
5. Called by the Father
6. Godly sorrow for sin
7. Repentance leading to life
8. Confessed sins, confessed faith in Christ
9. Baptized as an appeal to God for a good conscience
10. Past sins forgiven, no condemnation
11. Baptized into Christ, his death, his resurrection
12. Received the Spirit, drank, baptized, sealed, sanctified
13. Chosen, elect
14. Foreknown, predestined, called, justified
15. Faithful to Christ
16. Saved by grace, being saved
17. Obedience, fruitfulness
18. Go be with Jesus in New Jerusalem
19. Inheritance, everlasting life
20. Resurrection, will be saved
21. Glorified, will reign with Christ

Assignment: Read: Luke chapter 16–17 in different translation