

The Gospel of Luke 6:20–7:37

Messiah teaches how to please God

26 & 29 October 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.

Read Luke 6:12-16

Terms for Christians in Luke & Acts

- Apostles: Have Jesus' delegated authority.
- Believers: Have faith in Jesus.
- Brethren: Love one another.
- Christians: Try to live as Jesus did.
- Churches (gatherings): Form communities.
- Disciples: Follow Jesus' teaching.
- Elders: Model good behavior.
- Saints (holy): Belong to God.

Read Luke 6:17-23

"Blessed" (Gk, *makarios*)

- Blessed: "Fortunate, happy, favored, privileged" (BDAG Lexicon).
- Query: Is it a 'blessing' to be destitute? Malnourished? Emotionally crushed?
- Discuss: Why did Jesus say so?
- Answer: (a) "Blessed" applies only to Jesus' disciples. (b) They will be "happy" in a far future.

Read Luke 6:35-38

"Do not judge... condemn"

- Query: Does this mean that we have no moral standards? Or must not distinguish right from wrong? Excuse other's sins?
- Query: Who have a right and duty to judge and to condemn? (God. A jury of peers. Never government.)
- Query: Whom was Jesus chiding? (Religious bigots who were judging him.)

Read Luke 6:46-48

“Lord, Lord!”

- 1 Come to me: Believe in me for everlasting life, and I will receive you.
- 2 Hear my words: Read, study, remember my teaching, promises and commandments.
- 3 Put them into practice: Believe my teaching, claim my promises, obey my commandments?
- 4 Then call me ‘Lord’: And I guide you and provide for you, now and forever?

Read Luke Luke 7:1-3

This centurion

- Trained, commanded, and disciplined 60 to 80 soldiers.
- Syrian auxiliary stationed in Judea.
- Retired to his own home in Capernaum.
- Afforded intelligent, skilled servants.
- Believed in Israel’s God but was not a convert.
- His house and his food likely ‘unclean’.
- He exercised and respected authority.

Read Luke 7:4-8

Authority

- Ability to elicit obedience in others.
- God possesses absolute authority.
- Devils exercise usurped authority.
- Humans employ coercive authority.
- The state legitimizes human authority.
- Societies teach respect for authority.
- Criminals resist state authority.
- Clergy have responsibilities, not authority.

Read Luke 7:9-10

- Query: What does real faith believe? (Faith believes that Jesus Christ has all authority to heal, even from a distance.)

Read Luke 7:11-15

Resurrection of the dead

- God wants a family of angels and humans.
- He had that in Eden, until we fell into sin.
- Since then, all humans sin, and all die.
- God promised that humans will live again.
- Jesus & his apostles revived dead folk.
- Jesus died, then rose Victor over death.
- Jesus will raise this followers from death.
- We will live with him forever in New Eden.