

The Gospel of Luke 8:26–9:9

Messiah's amazing power

09 & 12 November 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.

Lesson outline Luke 8:26–9:9

Messiah's power over

- Demons: He annuls Satan's right to rule over fallen humanity (8:26-39).
- Death: He reverses the results of the Fall (8:40-56).
- Disease: He commissions human beings to heal the sick, the diseased, and the oppressed (9:1-9).

Read Luke 8:26-31

- There were two demoniacs (Mt 8:28), and Luke tells us about one of them.
- Tombs were 'unclean', haunts of demons.
- Consuming pagan sacrifices for the dead left at tombs could lead to demonization. "I do not want you to be participants with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons" (1 Cor 10:20-21).



The Gospel of Luke 8:26–9:9

Read Psalm 91

- Messiah “dwells in the shelter of the Most High ... the Almighty.” (1).
- “You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday (5-6).
- “His angels ... will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone” (12). See Luke 4:10.

Read Luke 8:29-32

- Abyss: “There waters gathered together. And I saw a deep chasm of the earth... as regards both height and depth, they were immeasurable... this is the prison for the Stars of Heaven and the Host of Heaven” (1 Enoch 18:10-14).

Read Luke 8:33-35

- Only Gentiles or non-observant Jews, who were considered “apostates,” kept pigs.
- Some Jewish traditions taught that demons could die.
- What does the pigs’ response to demons teach us about non-saved human beings?

Read Luke 8:35-37

- Why were the people “afraid” at seeing the man in his right mind?
- Why were they “overcome with fear” after learning how the man had been cured?
- Why did the people ask Jesus to leave the region?

Read Luke 8:37-39

- How does a former demoniac feel about Jesus?
- Why did Jesus say to tell others about what God had done, when it was Jesus who had done it?
- “If I alone bear witness about myself, then my testimony is not deemed true” (Jn 5:31).
- Rather than saying who he was, Jesus showed who is (the promised Messiah).

Read Luke 8:40-42

- Synagogue leader: An honorific title given to a wealthy man who supported the synagogue.
- Only daughter: *monogenés*, may imply that she was his only child (7:12; Jn 3:16).
- The child’s gender and age meant she was not to be touched by an adult male.
- And to touch a corpse made one unclean.

Read Luke 8:42-44

- How are the accounts of the child and of the adult connected, besides happening at the same hour and day? Some manuscripts insert, “who had spent all her livelihood on physicians;” see Mark 5:26.
- The woman’s continual flux kept her unclean under Mosaic law (Lev 15:19-33).
- Either she was not able to marry, or she was no longer married, and so possibly destitute.

Read Luke 8:45-46

- What does ‘power’ flowing from Jesus tell us about who he is?
- Whoever touched an unclean person became unclean for the rest of the day.
- What does this imply for Jesus’ entering Jairus’ House?
- What does this imply for us in whose midst Jesus is present?

Read Luke 8:47-50

- “Just believe!” Believe what? Whom?
- “She will be healed.” Greek, literally, “she will be saved.” A different word from that used in verse 48 (‘your faith has healed you’).
- What is Luke signaling to us readers by using the words ‘believe’ and ‘saved’ together? ‘Saved’ means to be raised from death back to live.
- Verse 50. Some manuscripts read, “Stop bothering the teacher.” *Mé* = not; *méketi* = no longer.

Read Luke 8:51-52

- Two flute-players and a mourning woman were required at the funeral of even the poorest person.
- There had to be a way to let neighbors know immediately that someone had died. (Across Africa, mournful ululation.)

Read Luke 8:53-56

Read Luke 9:1-2

- Cynic: One type of antiworldly philosopher who expressed independence from social needs by begging. Cynics owned only the barest necessities (e.g., cloak, staff, begging purse) and often greeted passersby with harsh, antisocial words.
- Jesus forbade his apostles to carry a begging purse.
- Verse 3. Some manuscripts read ‘disciples’ or ‘apostles’.

Luke 9:4-5

- Wherever, whenever, however, you and another Christian intentionally go to non-believers, telling them the Good News about Jesus, God will answer your prayers by meeting needs that they have.

Luke 9:6, 10

Coach church and cell leaders

- 1 Ask the Lord together to reveal his wisdom.
- 2 Listen to workers report on what they learned from their reading assignment.
- 3 Listen carefully to their report on their groups progress and new opportunities.
- 4 Lay new plans to implement immediately.
- 5 Assign Bible texts and a training booklet.
- 6 Practice together any needed new skill.
- 7 Pray by name for new workers to arise.