**Wednesday Night Bible Study**

**Wednesday 27 October 2021**

**Queens Chapel UMC \* 7410 Muirkirk Road \* Beltsville, MD 20705**

**Instructor: Rev. Dr. Will Butler**

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

**The Gospel of Luke**

**Key Verse**: **Luke 1:4**

“So that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

**Home Assignment:**

**Next Week—**The Gospel of Luke

1. **Luke was a companion of Who?**

 **Luke 1:1-4;**

 1 Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us,

 2 just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word.

 3 With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus,

 4 so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

**Acts 1:1-3**

 1 In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach

 2 until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen.

 3 After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.

**Colossians 4:12-15**

 12 Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured.

 13 I vouch for him that he is working hard for you and for those at Laodicea and Hierapolis.

 14 Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and Demas send greetings.

 15 Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house.

 **2 Timothy 4:9-11**

 9 Do your best to come to me quickly,

 10 for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia.

 11 Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry.

 **Philemon 1:23-24**

 23 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends you greetings.

 24 And so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas and Luke, my fellow workers.

**The Gospel of Luke is known as “A Gospel of the Universal Grace of God.” Why?**

 **Luke 2:29-32**

 25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him.

 29 “Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace.
 30 For my eyes have seen your salvation,
 31 which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:
 32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.”

 **Luke 3:1-6**

 3 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—

 2 during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

 3 He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

 4 As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: “A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.
 5 Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth.
 6 And all people will see God’s salvation.’”

**Luke 24:46-48**

 46 He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day,

 47 and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

 48 You are witnesses of these things.

**Who was Luke?**

1. Luke was the beloved physician, **Colossians 4:14** “Our dear friend Luke, the doctor”
* **Luke was a Gentile**—Paul confirms this by distinguishing Luke from who were Jews—**Colossians 4:11, 14**

  11 Jesus, who is called Justus, also sends greetings. **These are the only Jews among my co-workers** for the kingdom of God, and they have proved a comfort to me.

  14 Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and Demas send greetings.

1. Luke is also the author of The *Gospel of Luke* and The *Acts of the Apostles.* Both books were addressed to the same person, “most excellent Theophilus” *(Luke 1:3)*
* Luke is the only Gentile to pin two books considered the Holy Scriptures
1. Luke was a close friend and travelling companion of the Apostle Paul.
* One will see evidence of this in the book of Acts where Luke changes the pronouns to *“we”* and *“us”* indicating that he himself was present at these times.

For example:

 **Acts 16:10** “Now after he had seen the vision, immediately **we** sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.”

 **Acts 28:16** “Now when **we** came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard; but Paul was permitted to dwell by himself with the soldier who guarded him.”

* Very little is known about Luke. He never included personal details about himself or his conversion to Christianity.

**Note:**

 **Eusebius of Caesarea** *(theologian and historian)* and **Jerome of Stridon** *(Latin priest, theologian, and historian)* both identified Luke as a native of Antioch. Which probably explain why so much of the Book of Acts centers in Antioch. **(Acts 11:19-27; 13:1-3; 18:22-23)**

1. Luke’s profession as a medical doctor is evident in the emphasis, he placed upon Jesus’ healing ministry. For example:

 **Luke: 4:38-40**

 38 Jesus left the synagogue and went to the home of Simon. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her.

 39 So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and began to wait on them.

 40 At sunset, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them.

*(Luke 5:15-25; 6:17-19; 7:11-15; 8:43-47; 9:2,6.11;*

*14:2-4; 17:12-14; 22:50-51)*

**Homework**

1. Was Luke a disciple of Jesus Christ?
2. How did Luke receive his knowledge of Jesus Christ?

Read **Luke 1:1-2**

1. What moved Luke to write this Gospel of Jesus Christ?

Read **2 Peter 1:21**