

**Lecture 35 – Themes of Luke (cont.)**

*They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?” Luke 24:32 (NIV)*

**Key Terms**

Joy, repentance, prayer, the Holy Spirit

**Objectives**

\*To explain what Luke means by his use of the word “today”

**Lead Question**

\*What is distinctive about the Gospel of Luke in comparison with the other synoptic accounts?

**Themes of Luke (cont.)****VI. The Spirituality of Luke**

- A. The four Gospels share a common spirituality
- B. Matthew: Discipleship lived out in Jesus’ presence
  - 1. Immanuel theme
  - 2. “Deep” obedience demonstrates kingdom righteousness and loyalty to God. It is...
    - a. Chosen
    - b. Costly
    - c. Genuine and internal
    - d. Practical
- C. Mark: An austere discipleship
  - 1. Little ethical teaching; disciples follow Jesus on the way to the cross.
  - 2. An unflinching story of conflict - the power of Jesus ever meets opposition
- D. Luke
  - 1. Joy! (far more than other Gospels)
  - 2. The vertical Gospel
    - a. Repentance and conversion toward God
    - b. Prayer
    - c. The Holy Spirit

*Why is Luke’s Gospel referred to as a “vertical Gospel?” How does Luke’s use of pacing affect the emphases in his account?*

**VII. Luke’s Perspective on Final Week: Pace, Time, and Necessity in Luke**

- A. The measured pace of Luke; compared to pace of Matthew and Mark
  - 1. Mark - fast-paced, repeated use of “immediately” and “again”
  - 2. Matthew - even, steady pace, alternates between action and teaching
  - 3. Luke - slow, lots of “slow down” phrases: “It came to pass” and “In those days”
- B. “Today” and the middle of time
  - 1. Savior born today, 2:11
  - 2. Release and favor today, 4:21
  - 3. Miracles today, 13:32-33
  - 4. Salvation today, 19:5, 9
  - 5. Paradise opened today, 23:43
- C. Divine necessity in Luke-Acts
  - 1. The language of divine necessity and planning in Luke
  - 2. How could the Jews crucify their Messiah?

- a. The answer of Matthew and Mark
- b. The answer of Luke: the divine plan (cf. Acts 2:22-24)
- D. The necessary fate of a prophet: “No prophet can die outside Jerusalem” (13:33)
  - 1. The ministry of a prophet entails suffering.
    - a. 9:22
    - b. 13:33
    - c. 17:25
    - d. 22:37
  - 2. The life of a prophet, a great prophet
    - a. A prophet like Elijah and Elisha (4:24-27; 7:16; 8:53-5, with 9:54)
    - b. Some doubt that He is a prophet (7:39).
    - c. The claim is true, but not sufficient.
    - d. On the road to Emmaus (24:19-21)
- E. Necessity of the resurrection, Luke 24:7
  - 1. Whole OT testifies to need for a redeemer.
    - a. King
    - b. Prophet
    - c. Priest
- F. Conclusion: Both Matthew and Luke end with proclamation to all nations.