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
   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

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)

   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.