



Tell Me the Story of Jesus

Lesson 1 – Luke 1

People — Who is involved?

Luke – companion of Paul, physician, author
Theophilus – one to whom Luke/Acts addressed
Zacharias – priest, father of John the Baptist
Elizabeth – relative of Mary, mother of John
Mary – virgin, mother of Jesus, wife of Joseph

Places — Where does it happen?

Zacharias served in Jerusalem in the temple.
Gabriel spoke to Mary at Nazareth in Galilee
Mary visited the home of Elizabeth, possibly near Hebron in hill country of Judea (39).
John lived in deserted areas in Judea when he grew up (80).

Pearls — What information will help me to understand better?

- Vs. 3 – “Theophilus” means “lover of God.” Probably a particular person but perhaps any lover of God.
Vs. 4 – This is Luke’s purpose for writing to Theophilus.
Vs. 5 – This Herod is Herod the Great who ruled Judea during the early life of Jesus.
The family of Aaron was of the tribe of Levi (the priestly tribe). Both of John’s parents were Levite.
The priests were divided into 24 divisions for service at the temple; Abia (Abijah) was the eighth.
Vs. 10 – The offerings were made at about 6:00 in the morning and 3:00 in the afternoon.
Vs. 13 – The name “John” means “given” or “bestowed mercifully.” He was a gracious gift from God.
Vs. 19 – Gabriel is one of only two angels named in the Bible. God sent Gabriel to explain (Dan. 8:16; 9: 21; Luke 1:25-38); God used Michael to defeat evil (Dan. 10:13, 21; 12:1; Jude 9; Rev. 12:7-8).
Vs. 27 – Both Jesus’ earthly parents were from David’s lineage. But Mary conceived as a virgin:
a) She is called a “virgin” (parthenos is the purest Greek word for a true “virgin”.)
b) Matthew confirms this as fulfilling Isaiah 7:14 (see Matt. 1:22=23).
c) Isaiah and Matthew say this would be a “sign” – it wasn’t a sign if a normal conception.
d) Isaiah and Matthew state that His conception confirms Him as God with us (Immanuel).
e) Isaiah 9:6-7 also says: “unto us a child is born” (humanity); “a child is given” (divinity).
f) The conception is clearly attributed to the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:35; Matt. 1:20).
g) Notice: “before they came together;” “I do not know a man;” “did not know her till...” (Luke 1:34; Matt. 1:18, 25). Mary committed fornication if she was not a virgin!
Vs. 31 – His name would be Jesus (“the Lord is Salvation”; see Matt. 1:21; Luke 2:11).
Vs. 32-35 – He would be the Son of God. He would be the King to sit on the throne of David.
Vs. 41 – John is identified as a “babe” and a “son” before birth. Something to consider before abortion.

Perspectives — What may I learn from this chapter?

1. We should trust God’s providence in our lives to provide wonderful blessings. And we should glorify Him and fully obey His will as revealed to us just as Zacharias, Elizabeth, and Mary did.
2. Jesus was born after conception by the Holy Spirit in the virgin Mary. He is the Son of God.
3. John the Baptist was to go before Jesus to prepare His ways (vs. 76).