

"Luke's Gospel Infancy of John and Jesus"

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Themes in Luke's Gospel Infancy Narrative: Christian faith is rooted in Judaism, Jerusalem, Temple, joy, kingship, the poor/the rich, prayer, prophet, salvation, Holy Spirit, inclusive, women.

Luke's Gospel is Unique

1. Longest book of the NT.
2. 50 percent of his gospel is unique to Lk.
3. He uses eyewitnesses.
4. He is the Gospel of women- he mentions 13 women not in other gospels.
5. He has 7 miracles not in other gospels.
6. He has 19 parables not in other gospels.
7. Luke attempts to put Jesus' life into a Roman (Gentile) context, sometimes incorrectly.

Sources of Luke

1. Luke read Mark's Gospel and included a lot of it in his Gospel.
2. Eye witnesses. Luke is not an eyewitness. He is a second generation Christian.
3. Some material that Luke and Matthew share, but not Mark. Called Q Source.
4. Material unique to Luke.

Luke outlines the birth of St John the Baptist and Jesus in the typical manner of the OT.
He gives statements about the birth:

1. annunciation of the birth to parents, by an angel.
2. name of the child.
3. prophecy about the child.
4. overcoming of human deficiency.
5. sign that this birth will happen.

Zechariah contrasted with John

Zechariah was a priest.
Zechariah was married.
Zechariah means "The Lord remembers."
Zechariah lived in the hill country.
Zechariah ID with the Jewish religious system.
Zechariah was struck dumb for unbelief.
Zechariah was old.

John was a prophet.
John was single.
John means "God is gracious."
John lived in the desert.
John was a prophet criticizing people.
John spoke boldly.
John was young.

Elizabeth contrasted with Mary

House of Aaron, dad and mom.
Elizabeth is married and lives in hill country.
Elizabeth bears a stigma for having no children.
Elizabeth is old.
Elizabeth means, My God is fullness .
Elizabeth knows God took away her reproach.
Miracle of late birth.
Elizabeth gives birth to the forerunner.
Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit
Elizabeth points to John.
Gabriel spoke to Zechariah.
John is great before the Lord.

Birth of John

Parents righteous, old and sterile.
Angel appears to Zechariah, a priest.
Zechariah disbelieving and doubting.
Angel tells him not to be afraid.
Zechariah is promised a son.
Son's name will be John, God is gracious.
John will be a prophet.
John will be filled with the Holy Spirit.
He will be great before the Lord.
Zechariah and Elizabeth are joyful.
Angel tells parents of John's mission.
John is Jesus' forerunner, even at birth.
Sign by the angel:
Zechariah is made dumb.
Elizabeth goes into seclusion on pregnancy.
John is born in the hill country of Judea.
Neighbors are joyful at John's birth.
Zechariah prays in gratitude.
John grows and became strong.

House of David, mom and dad.
Mary is engaged, living in town, Nazareth.
Mary has early, unexpected pregnancy.
Mary is young.
Mary means excellence.
Mary was highly favored one of God.
Miracle of virgin birth.
Mary gives birth to the Lord.
Mary is overshadowed by the Most High.
Mary points to Jesus.
Gabriel spoke to Mary.
Jesus is the Son of the Most High.

Birth of Jesus

Parents righteous, young and engaged.
Gabriel appears to betrothed Mary.
Mary troubled and questioning.
Angel tells her not to be afraid.
Mary is promised a son.
Son's name will be Jesus, Savior.
Jesus is Son of the Most High.
Jesus will reign forever.
Jesus is the Lord.
Angels rejoice.
Simeon tells parents of Jesus' mission.
Jesus is the heir of the throne of David.
Sign by angel:
Mary is told about Elizabeth.
Mary leaves home to see Elizabeth.
Jesus is born in town of Bethlehem.
Angels rejoice at Jesus' birth.
Mary prays the Magnificat.
Jesus grows in wisdom, age and grace.