

Sabbath Brothers



Luke as a Gentile

- An ancient prologue written to introduce the gospel describes Luke as a Syrian from Antioch.
- The Bible Reader is introduced to Luke as the man from Macedonia (Acts 16:9) where Acts turns from third person to first person.
- Lucas (or Loukas) is a Greek name; the author of Luke writes with a Greek style, and is highly educated with his chosen vocabulary, similar to other Greek writers in his day.
- Paul also listed him with other Gentiles in his greetings to the Colossians (4:14).
- The ancient prologue goes on to state that Luke eventually settled in the Greek city of Thebes, where he died at age 84.

The Conclusion of Paul's Ministry

- Paul Arrested in Jerusalem
- Paul Incarcerated for two years in Caesarea
- Paul Transferred to be under "House Arrest" in Rome
- Paul Released from Roman Imprisonment for Final Ministries
- Paul Re-arrested after Nero burns Rome
- Paul in Rome's Mamertine Cell before martyrdom
- Only Luke stayed with Paul (2 Timothy 4:11)



**Luke:
The Loyal
Physician**

The Names of God

→ The Hebrew word for “breast” is “shad” (שֶׁד)

“The LORD God...”

Yahweh ↗ ↖ Adonai

Adonai is the Hebrew word for "Lord," which was translated as Kyrios ("Lord") in the Septuagint, the Greek version of the Old Testament

The Jews chose to use the term “Adonai” instead of His personal name in order that they may not to break the law.

“You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold guiltless anyone who takes his name in vain.”

Exodus 20:7

“*El Shaddai*” is used almost exclusively in reference to the three great patriarchs: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

“God spoke to Moses and said to him, “I am the LORD. I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by my name “the LORD,” I did not make myself known to them.”

Exodus 6:2-3

“Then Moses said to God, “If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” God said to Moses, “**I Am Who I Am.**” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘I am has sent me to you.’”

Exodus 3:13-14

- אֶהְיֶה אֲשֶׁר אֶהְיֶה (“Ehyeh asher ehyeh”) is the Hebrew phrase translated “I AM Who I AM.”
- The proper name of God means “the Self-Existing One.”
- The name “Yahweh” was translated into “Jehovah” in the 14th century by the German translators who did not have a “Y” in their language; The Hebrew language does not have the letter “J.”

Elohim

- Elohim is the plural form of El and one of the oldest designations for divinity in the world. The Hebrew word “Elohim” is in the first verse of the Bible.
- Elohim speaks of the Trinity as One God in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Though El is used more than 200 times in the Hebrew Bible, Elohim is used more than 2,500 times.
- The term “Elohim” is a category title that refers to the “heavenly” or “spiritual” realm.
 - “Elohim” is a title (not a name) similar to the titles of Dad, Friend or Neighbor
 - While “Yahweh” is a name, “Elohim” is a title.
- Hebrews exalted Yahweh above all other spiritual entities (the “Elohim of Elohim”)
- Among all of the spiritual beings (Elohim), there is only one God (monotheism).

*“I said, ‘You are **gods** (Elohim – spiritual creatures), *sons of the Most High, all of you...*”*

Psalm 82:6

Spoken to Human Judges as representatives of the Divine & leveraging divine discernment

*“There you will serve **gods** of wood and stone, the work of human hands, that neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell...”*

Deuteronomy

Spoken as judgment of slavery in the Babylonian exile with the demonic idols

“For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.”

Colossians 1:16

The Passover (Exodus 12:1-13)



“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world”
John 1:29

12 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ² **“This month is to be the beginning of months for you; it is the first month of your year.**

³ Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month they must each select an animal of the flock according to their fathers’ households, one animal per household.

⁴ **If the household is too small for a whole animal,** that person and the neighbor nearest his house are to select one based on the combined number of people; you should apportion the animal according to what each person will eat.



The Passover (Exodus 12:1-13)

12⁵ You must have an unblemished animal, a year-old male; you may take it from either the sheep or the goats.

6 You are to keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembly of the community of Israel will slaughter the animals at twilight.

7 They must take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses where they eat them.

8 They are to eat the meat that night; they should eat it, roasted over the fire along with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

9 Do not eat any of it raw or cooked in boiling water, but only roasted over fire—its head as well as its legs and inner organs.



The Passover (Exodus 12:1-13)

12 ¹⁰ Do not let any of it remain until morning; you must burn up any part of it that does remain before morning.

¹¹ Here is how you must eat it: you must be dressed for travel, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. You are to eat it in a hurry; it is the LORD's Passover.

¹² "I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night and **strike every firstborn male** in the land of Egypt, both man and beast. I am Yahweh; **I will execute judgments against all the gods of Egypt.**

¹³ The blood on the houses where you are staying will be a **distinguishing mark for you; when I see the blood, I will pass over you.** No plague will be among you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt



The Mark of God (Ezekiel 9:1-6)

9 Then He called to me directly with a loud voice, “Come near, executioners of the city, each of you with a destructive weapon in his hand.”

2 And I saw **six men coming** from the direction of the Upper Gate, which faces north, each with a war club in his hand. There was **another man among them, clothed in linen**, with writing equipment at his side. They came and stood beside the bronze altar.

3 Then the glory of the God of Israel rose from above the cherub where it had been, to the threshold of the temple. He called to the man clothed in linen with the writing equipment at his side.

4 “Pass throughout the city of Jerusalem,” the LORD said to him, “and **put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and groan over all the detestable practices committed in it.**”

5 He spoke as I listened to the others, “**Pass through the city after him and start killing; do not show pity or spare them!**”

6 Slaughter the old men, the young men and women, as well as the older women and little children, but **do not come near anyone who has the mark.** Now begin at My sanctuary.” So they began with the elders who were in front of the temple.



“No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.”
Revelation 22:3-4



The Passover (Exodus 12:1-13)

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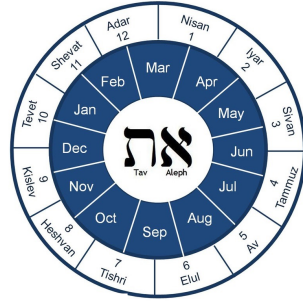
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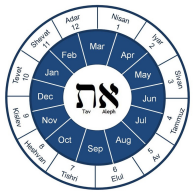
The Hebrew Calendar

The **civil Jewish calendar** year begins in late September or early October with the celebration of **Rosh Hashana**.



TWELVE-MONTH YEAR	
SACRED	CIVIL
1. Nisan	Tishri
2. Iyar	Heshvan
3. Sivan	Chisleu
4. Tammuz	Tebet
5. Ab	Shebet
6. Elul	Adar
7. Tishri	Nisan
8. Heshvan	Iyar
9. Chisleu	Sivan
10. Tebet	Tammuz
11. Shehet	Ab
12. Adar	Elul

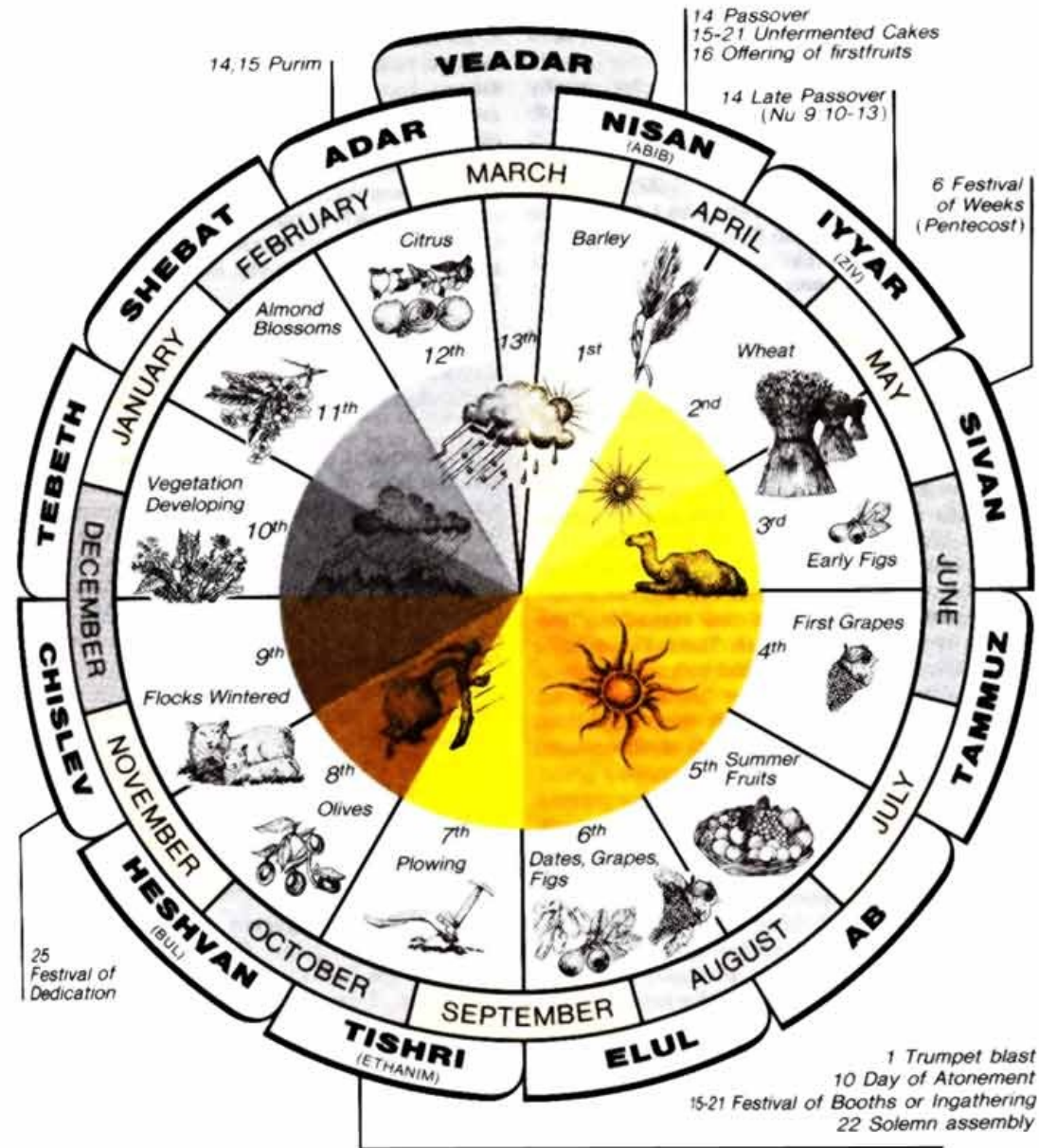
Adar is the sixth month of the civil year and the twelfth month of the sacred (religious) Jewish calendar.



The Jewish Month of Veadar

(The Hebrew term for “And” is “Ve”)

Every two or three years, the Jewish calendar requires the **adjustment of a leap year**.



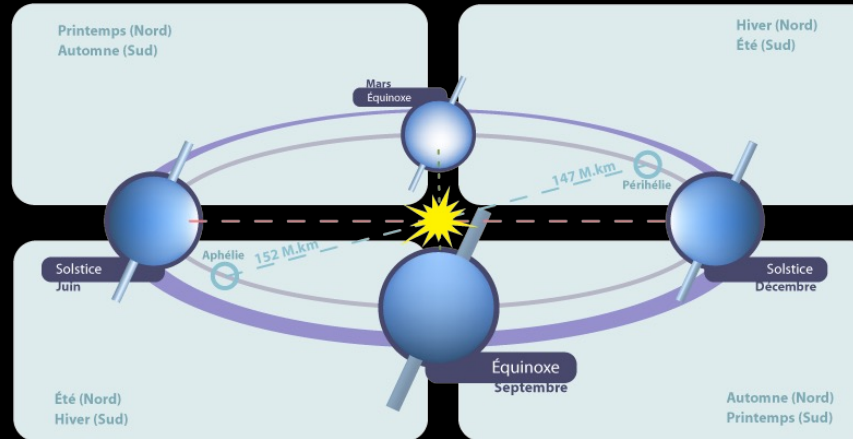
The Equinox

The Latin meaning of the word “ equinox ” is “ equal night.”

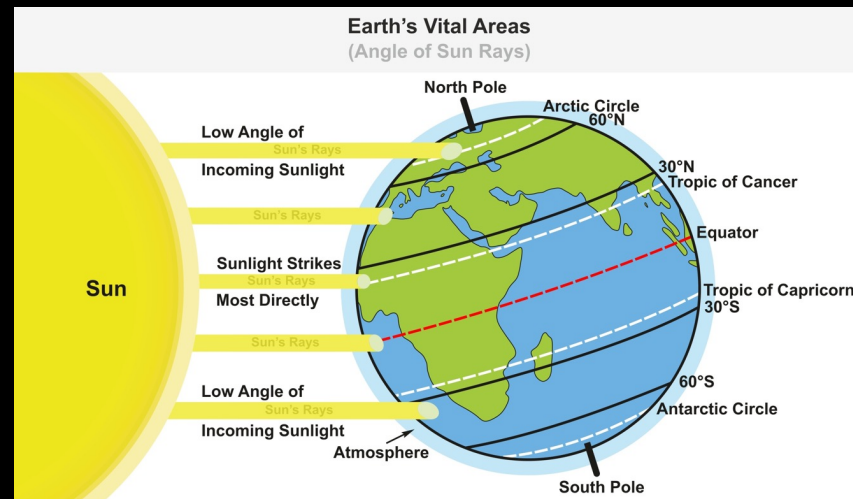
Equinoxes happen when the **sun passes over the Equator.**

This is when the north and south poles of the Earth are **not tilted towards or away from the sun**

Equinoxes result in nearly Equal Day & Night



The **Vernal (Spring) Equinox** in the Northern Hemisphere is the **Autumnal (Fall) Equinox** in the Southern Hemisphere .



The Sun passes from one Hemisphere to the Other

The Sun rises in the exact due East & sets in the exact due West

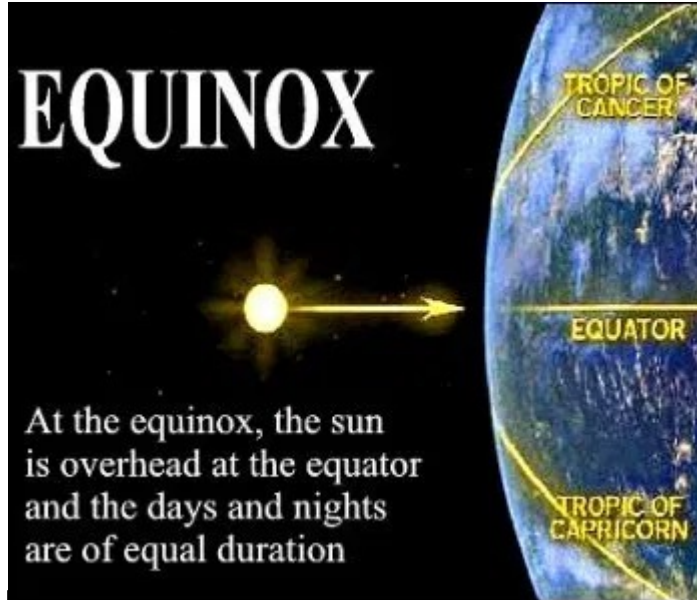
At the North Pole, the equinox begins 6 months of uninterrupted daylight

At the South Pole, the equinox begins 6 months of uninterrupted darkness

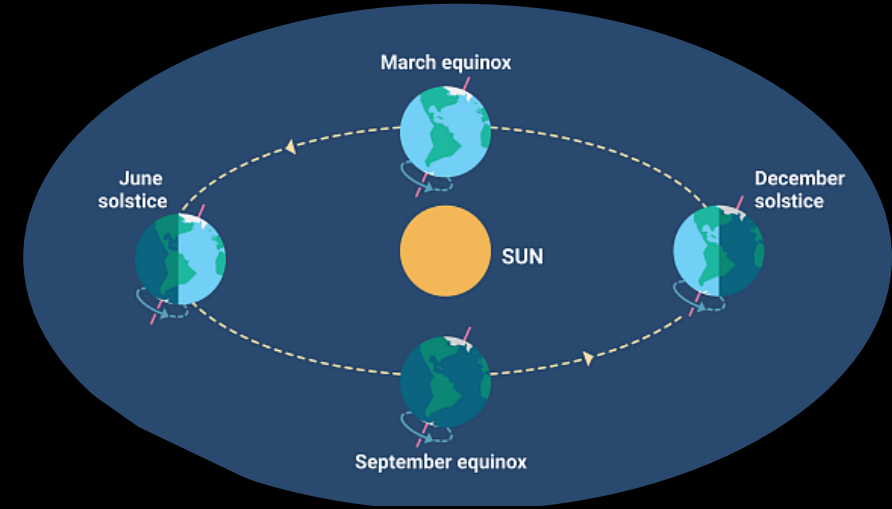
The Schedule of Easter

"When Jesus rose early on the first day of the week..." (Mark 16:9)

Easter is always celebrated on a Sunday



- Easter is a “movable feast” and does not have a fixed date.
- Easter's exact date varies so much because it is dependent on the moon.
- Easter is always held on a Sunday **between March 22 and April 25.**
- Over a 500-year period (from 1600 to 2099 AD), Easter will have most often been celebrated on either March 31 or April 16.



General

Easter always occurs on the first Sunday after the Paschal (Passover) Full Moon (the first full moon that occurs after the vernal equinox), which signifies the beginning of spring in the northern hemisphere

Explicit

The first Sunday to occur after the March 28 full moon is on April 4.

The first full Moon after that date was on Sunday, March 28.

The March equinox occurred on Saturday, March 20 (1st Day of Spring).

The Gospel of Luke

The four gospel books were framed towards four different audiences from four different perspectives which align to the creatures around the throne of God.

Corresponds to the Four Creatures Before the Throne of God
(Isaiah 6, Ezekiel 1:4-10, 10:14, Revelation 4:6-7)

Gospel	Audience	View of Christ	Symbol	Example
Matthew	Jew Reference of OT	What He Said	Messiah (Lion) Zechariah 9:9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Genealogy through Royal Line (Descending) - Sin Offering
Mark	Gentile/Roman Haste/Action	What He Did	Servant (Ox) Isaiah 42:1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No Genealogy - Trespass Offering – affects/deeds
Luke	Gentile/Greek Philosophical	What He Felt	Son of Man (Man) Zechariah 6:12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Genealogy through Blood Line (Ascending) - Peace Offering
John	Church	Who He Was	Son of God (Eagle) Isaiah 40:9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Genealogy of Pre-existent One - Burnt Offering - Dedication

Luke
Matthew

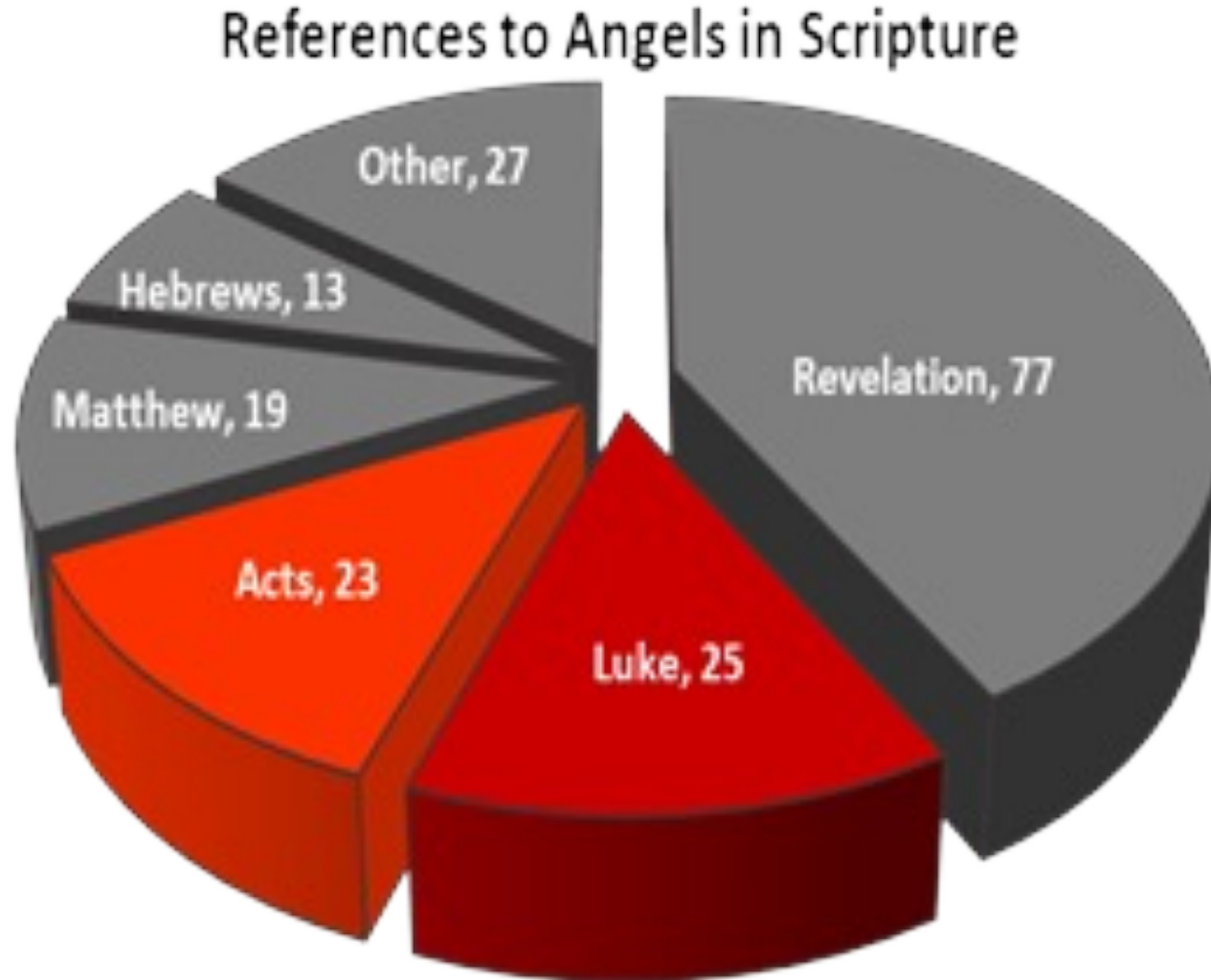
To Jews First (The Night of Nativity)

Then To Gentiles (>2 years Later)

Shepherds
Wise Men

Jew
Gentile

The Angels of Luke



- Angels are mentioned in the Book of Luke a total of 25 times.
 - In Acts (which is also written by Luke), angels are mentioned 23 times.
- In aggregate, Luke mentions angels 48 times which is 27% of the 184 times angels appear in the New Testament.
- The prophetic book of Revelation references angels 77 times which leaves Luke/Acts as the secondary source on angels followed by Matthew (19 times) and then Hebrews (13 times).

The Prayers of Luke's Gospel

The Gospel of Luke highlights the prayers of Jesus more than any other Gospel.

The Gospel of Luke on Prayer

Luke 1:8-10	Zechariah was a man of prayer.
Luke 1:13,15,25	John the Baptist was born in answer to Zechariah's prayers.
Luke 1:46-55	Mary prays following Gabriel's news of Jesus.
Luke 1:67	Zechariah prays a prophetic prayer.
Luke 2:27-33	Simeon prays while blessing the baby. Jesus.
Luke 2:36-37	Anna fasted and prayed in the Temple for 84 years.
Luke 3:21-22	The prayer and genuine ministry through the Holy Spirit
Luke 4:1-2	Jesus prepared for ministry with 40 days of fasting and prayer.
Luke 5:16	Jesus often withdrew to lonely places to pray.
Luke 6:28	Jesus told His followers to pray even for those who mistreat them.
Luke 9:28-29	Jesus was transfigured while praying
Luke 10:1-2	Jesus told disciples to pray for individuals to be called to the mission field
Luke 11:1	The disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray.
Luke 11:2-4	Jesus taught the disciples His prayer pattern.
Luke 11:9-13	Jesus directs His followers to ask for the gifts and strength of the Holy Spirit.
Luke 18:1-8	Jesus taught persistence in prayer and never give up.
Luke 19:46	Jesus declared that His house is to be a house of prayer.
Luke 22:32	Jesus prayed that Peter's faith may not fail.
Luke 22:40-41	Jesus instructed the disciples to pray, and then goes to pray Himself in Gethsemane
Luke 23:34,46	Jesus prayed while on the cross several times.



The Women of Luke's Gospel

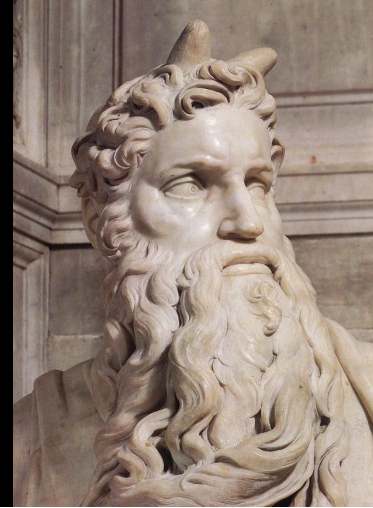
The Gospel of Luke gives a prominence to women more than any other Gospel.

The Importance of Women in the Gospel of Luke	
Luke 1:5-7, 25, 57-60	Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist
Luke 1:26-38, 46-55; 2:5-7, 19, 34-35, 50-51; 8:19	Mary, the mother of Jesus
Women Healed by Jesus	
Luke 4:38-39	Simon Peter's mother-in-law
Luke 8:41-42, 49-56	A 12-year-old girl
Luke 8:43-48	A woman with a 12-year infirmity
Luke 13:10-17	A woman who had been crippled 18 years
Exemplary Behavior of Women	
Luke 7:37-50	A sinful woman anointed Jesus and was forgiven
Luke 10:38-42	Mary listened while Martha worked
Luke 15:8-10	A woman in a parable found a lost coin
Luke 18:1-5	In another parable, a widow kept going to a judge to obtain justice
Luke 21:1-4	A poor widow gave two small coins to the temple
Supportive Behaviors of Women	
Luke 2:36-38	Anna, a prophetess, blessed the infant Jesus
Luke 8:1-3	As part of Jesus' traveling party, women helped pay his way
Luke 11:27-28	An anonymous woman blessed Mary
Witnesses to the Resurrection	
Luke 23:27, 49	Women were among those who observed the crucifixion
Luke 23:55-56	Women prepared spices to anoint Jesus' body
Luke 24:1-3	Women were the first to find Jesus' tomb empty
Luke 24:4-8	Angels told the women that Jesus had risen
Luke 24:9-11	Women were the first to tell the other disciples



The “Benedictus” (Luke 1:68-79)

The first line from Zechariah in the Latin Vulgate is the **“*Benedictus Dominus Deus Israel*”** which means **“*Blessed be the Lord God of Israel.*”**



A famous statue in Saint Peter’s cathedral that was carved by Michelangelo shows Moses with two horns that should represent Moses radiating light; however, St Jerome mistranslated the radiance into horns.

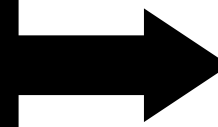
Uses of the Term “Holy” (Hagiōn) in the New Testament Beyond God	
Angels	Mk 8:38; Lk 9:26; Rev 14:10
Prophets	Lk 1:70; Acts 3:21; 2 Pet 3:2
Places	Heb 8:2; 9:3, 8; 10:19
Saints	Mt 27:52; Acts 26:10; Romans 8:27; 12:13; 15:26; 16:2; 1 Cor 6:1; 14:33; 2 Cor 9:12; Eph 2:19; 3:8; 4:12; 6:18; Col 1:12; 1 Thes 3:13; 1 Tim 5:10; Phil 1:7; Rev 5:8; 8:3-4; 13:7, 10; 14:12; 16:6, 17:6; 18:24; 19:8; 20:9; 22:21

The “*Benedictus*” is similar to the “*Eighteen Benedictions*” which is repeated three times each day by all observant Jews

“...has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old...”
Luke 1:69

“To serve Him without fear in holiness and righteousness in His presence all our days.” Luke 1:74-75

By Zechariah’s time, there had not been a prophet since Malachi (four centuries prior).



“And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways...” Luke 1:76

Multi-Purpose Trip to Jerusalem (Luke 2:22-23)

Luke 2:22-23

²² And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord")

2

Exodus 13:2

²"Consecrate to me **every firstborn male**. The first offspring of every womb among the Israelites belongs to me, whether human or animal.

Exodus 13:2

וְלִי הוּא: קֹדֶשׁ-לִּי כָל-בְּכוֹר פֶּטֶר כָּל-רֶחֶם בְּבִנְי"ו
"יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּאָדָם ◦ בְּבַהֲמָה בְּאָדָם"

Exodus 13:2 (Interlinear)

²"Among the sons, the womb, whatever opens the firstborn all to me consecrate; it is mine of beast and man of Israel."

1

Leviticus 12:1-4 & 12:8

The LORD spoke to Moses: ² "Tell the Israelites: When a woman becomes pregnant and gives birth to a male child, she will be unclean seven days, as she is during the days of her menstrual impurity. ³ The flesh of his foreskin must be circumcised on the eighth day. ⁴ She will continue in purification from her bleeding for 33 days. She must not touch any holy thing or go into the sanctuary until completing her days of purification.

.....

⁸ But if she doesn't have sufficient means for a sheep, she may take two turtledoves or two young pigeons, one for a burnt offering and the other for a sin offering. Then the priest will make atonement on her behalf, and she will be clean."

Jewish tradition states that Simeon was the son of the famous Jewish scholar Hillel and the father of Gamaliel who taught Saul/Paul (Acts 22:3).

“Pidyon HaBen” (Luke 2:22-23)

“Redemption of the First-Born Son”

- The Jewish ceremony of “Pidyon HaBen” redeems the firstborn son to release him of his obligation to serve in the Temple (Numbers 3:13, 18:16).
- The first son out of the womb (the firstborn male of humans or animals) were to be dedicated to the Lord as a symbol that all life belongs to God.

- In the “process of redemption,” five Tyrian shekels were given to any priest in any of the courtyards of the Temple, and a blessing would be pronounced by the priest over the child. (Exodus 13:2; Numbers 18:16)



Luke 2:39

³⁹ And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth.

“How Did The Wise Men Find Jesus?” (Matthew 2:1-5; 9-11)

2 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

3 When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

5 And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judea: for thus it is written by the prophet.



They followed the Star; walking in faith instead of man's devices

“And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.”
Daniel 12:3

9 When they had heard the king, they departed; **and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them**, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

10 **When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.**

11 And when they were come into **the house**, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him



Considerations (Matthew 2:16-23)

¹⁶ Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men.

¹⁷ Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying,

¹⁸ In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

¹⁹ But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,

²⁰ Saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child's life.

²¹ And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel.

²² But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judaea in the room of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither: notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee:

²³ And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

Most assume that Jesus was still in Nazareth because that is what Herod assumed – without faith, following the Word of God

Unknowingly, Herod's slaughter fulfilled Prophecy (Jer 31:15)

Repeat Dream & Obedience

Joseph Leads	From Israel to Egypt From Egypt to Israel
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“Having heard now that Archelaus reigns over Judea in place of the father of him, Herod, he was afraid there to go having been divinely warned now in a dream he withdrew into the district of Galilee.”

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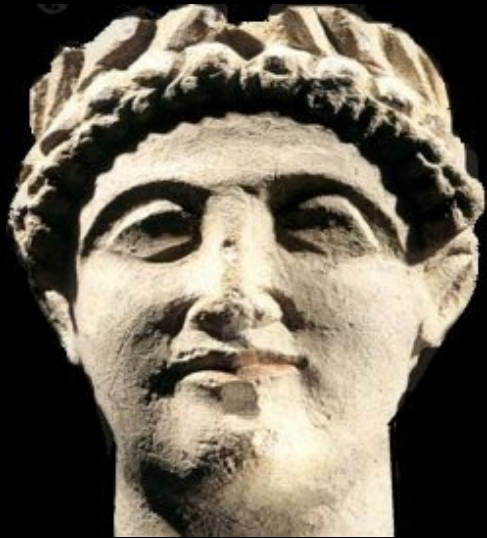
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The Authorities (Luke 3:1-2)



Tetrarch is defined as having a “fourth” of the governmental authority (“ruler of a quarter”).

After the death of Herod, the Great, the Palestine area was divided into four regions:

1. Lysanias ruled Abilene
2. Philip ruled Ituraea
3. Antipas ruled Galilee and Perea (Transjordan)
4. Archelaus ruled Judea



High Priests of Judea

6AD-15AD	Annas (Ananus ben Seth)	Appointed by the Roman Governor Quirinius as the first High Priest of the newly formed Roman province of Judea
15AD-16AD	Ishmael be Fabus	Appointed by the Roman Governor Gratus w/ legendary handsomeness
16AD-17AD	Eleazar ben Ananus	High Priest during a time of political turbulence around the priesthood and later became a zealot leader in 70AD
17AD-18AD	Simon ben Camithus	High Priest for a short time and ridiculed in the Talmud
18AD-36AD	Caiaphas (Joseph ben Caiaphas)	Caiaphas was the son-in-law of Annas (who was the true power behind the priesthood) and ruled longer than any high priest in New Testament times.

Washing Through Baptism (Luke 3:3)

Jews used baptism for proselyte Gentiles who were converting into Judaism, so baptism would have been a humbling experience for Jews.

“When they go into the tabernacle of the congregation, they shall wash with water, that they die not; or when they come near to the altar to minister, to burn offering made by fire unto the LORD”
EXODUS 30:20

“And now, why delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins by calling on His name.”
ACTS 22:16

The “halacha” is the Jewish law that supplements the scriptural law in the Talmud. The halacha (Jewish law) contains a great deal about hand washing as Jews extrapolated laws beyond their original intent.



The bronze laver positioned at the entrance to the temple (1 Kings 7:13–14).

The ten Brazen Lavers were bronze lavers used in the Temple of Solomon



Occasions Jews Must Wash Hands For Ceremonial Purity

- When they awake (shacharit)
- Before & After Eating
- Between Courses of Meals
- After using the bathroom
- After touching head/scalp
- After getting a hair cut
- After cutting nails
- After touching footwear
- After donating blood
- Upon leaving a cemetery

“What Should We Do?” (Luke 3:10-14)

Three Times, John the Baptist was asked: “What Should We Do?”

(Luke 3:10-14)

- | | | |
|----|----------------|--|
| 1. | Crowds | Charity/Love for the Poor |
| 2. | Tax Collectors | Fairness/Justice |
| 3. | Soldiers | No Force, No Lies, Satisfaction with Wages |

John doesn't tell the tax collectors or the soldiers that they need to leave their careers, but he tells them to behave honorably.

Do you give to the needy?

The crowds were concerned about the correct course of action to produce the lifestyle fruit. John responds that the crowds should share their blessings to meet the basic needs (clothing; food) of others.

Do you cheat & exploit?

The application for tax collectors was to be fair in their collections.

Do not gouge or blackmail, but instead perform their duties with justice.

Do you misuse authority for gain?

John's response to the soldiers was similar to his response to the tax collectors – do not take money by “force or false accusation.”

John cautions the soldiers about greed. Materialistic ambitions and covetousness; “be satisfied with your wages.”

- The tax collectors were unique in that it states explicitly that they came to be baptized.
- Tax Collectors referred to John as “Teacher” using the Greek term “Didaskale” (Διδάσκαλε) which is a more casual title than Rabbi.

Considerations (Luke 3:10-14)

Is your career primarily your Christian ministry?

Is your career negatively affecting your Christian walk?

What do you prioritize over time with God?

Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven," ...and He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."

Luke 7:48-50

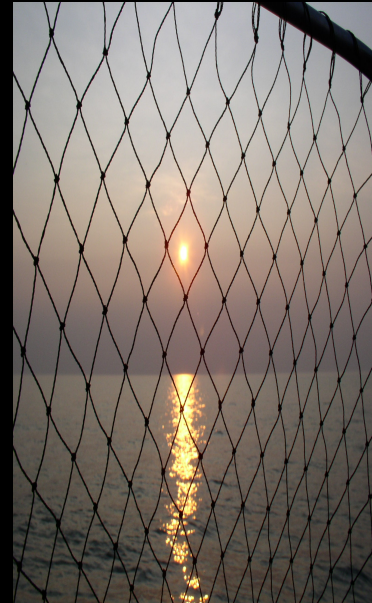
“Fishers of Men” (Luke 5:1-3)

Biblical Passages on the Call of the Fishermen

Matthew 4:18-22 Simon & Andrew Casting Nets
Call & Response
Mark 1:16-20 James & John in Boat

Luke 5:1-11 All Four Fishermen Were Working with Their Nets
Miracle Catch of Fish

John 1:29-42 Andrew Hears John’s Witness & Tells Simon
Jesus Calls Simon Peter



Hand nets were utilized that were between 10-15 feet long. Net casting, (holding the net by hand) was a popular method of fishing, and the hand nets could be used from the shore.

A Dragnet was very long (several hundred feet) as it would span between two boats. The boats would drag the net to catch the fish; however, this method would often also collect various debris as well as tearing the net.

Sheep

In the Old Testament, God’s people were primarily symbolized by sheep with His leaders as shepherds. The “sheep” were primarily Jewish and represented by “land” throughout Scripture.

Fish

In the New Testament, God’s people transition to fish with His leaders as fishermen. The “fish” primarily represent Gentile followers with the sea symbolizing the Gentile world system (Jeremiah 16:16; Ezekiel 29:4-5; 38:4; Amos 4:2; Habakkuk 1:14-17).

The sign of the fish is called “Icthus” (ichthys) and dates back to the 2nd century



ICTHUS

“I”	Jesus
“C”	Christ
“TH”	God’s
“U”	Son
“S”	Savior

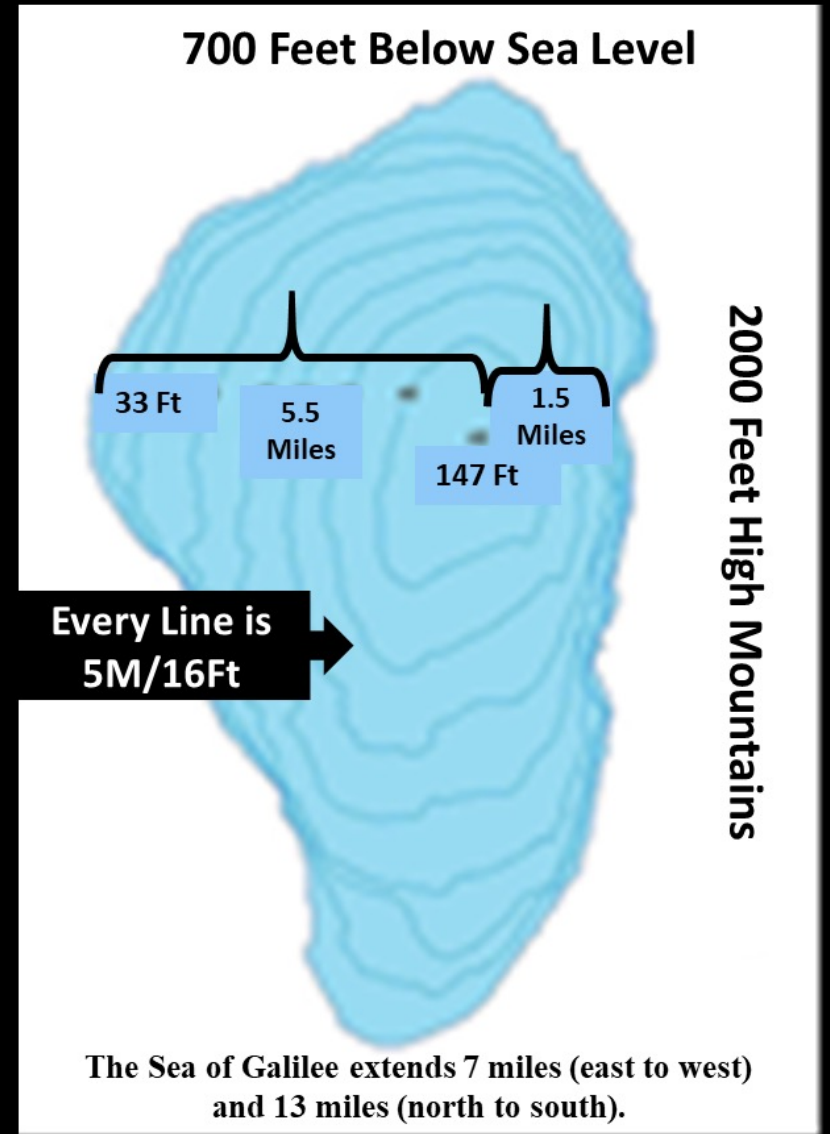
The Calling to Be Fishers of Men (Luke 5:4-6)

The Greek term for “deep” (bathos βάθος) can refer to water, soil or space.



The Sea of Galilee has an average depth of 84 feet with the deepest part measuring 147 feet.

Storms on the Sea of Galilee result primarily from the difference in temperatures from the 2000 foot high mountains on the east where the winds descend crashing into the waters 700 feet below sea level.



Considerations (Luke 5:7-11)

Where was Peter's Focus?

“Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men.”

Luke 5:10

Lord of the Sabbath (Luke 6:1-5)

*“Jesus answered them...
“Have you not read...?”*
Luke 6:3

The Pharisees (meaning “separated ones”) had evolved out of the Maccabean time period and were legalistic by design. They were well-versed in all of the Tanakh (Old Testament) as well as the oral traditions that would be codified (written) in the Mishnah between ~70AD~200AD.

Deuteronomy 23:25

“If you go into your neighbor's standing grain, you may pluck the ears with your hand, but you shall not put a sickle to your neighbor's standing grain.”

Prohibited Work on the Sabbath According to the Jews

Reaping	Picking the Grain
Threshing	Separating Grain from the Stalk
Winnowing	Rubbing Grains in Hand to Separate Kernels from Chaff
Food Preparation	The Kernels Eaten

William Barclay (Scottish Minister)
1907-1978

“It is possible to read Scripture meticulously, to know the Bible inside out from cover to cover, to be able to quote verbatim and to pass any examination on it – and yet completely miss its real meaning.”

Beyond “knowing” the Word of God, God’s people are called to be “Livers” of the Word of God. In prayer, relationally walking with the Lord – obedient to His Word and Calling – while showing Love for Others. (James 1:22-25)

Tanakh
+ Oral Law

Mishnah
+ Gemara

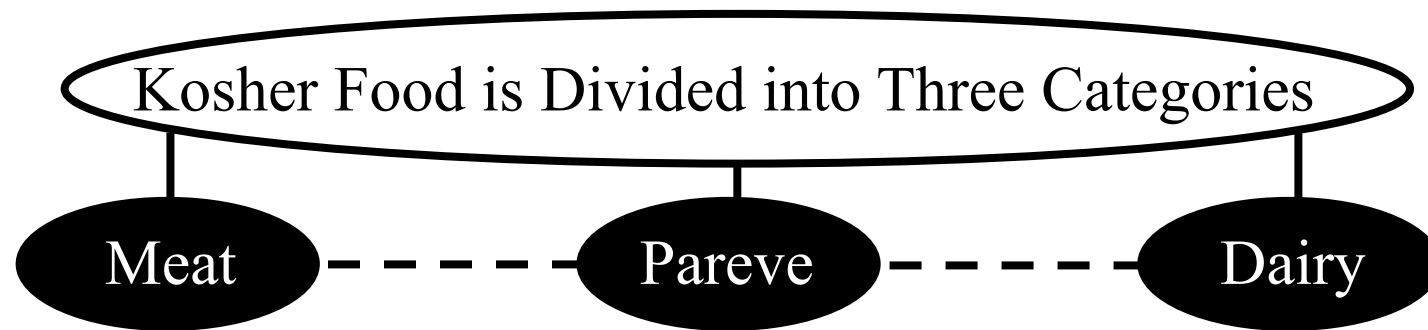
Talmud

Oral Teachings & Traditions (Luke 6:1-5)

Any Type of Food Can be Kosher: American, Chinese, Indian, Mexican, etc.

- The term “kosher” is utilized to describe food preparation that complies with strict Jewish dietary standards.
- The “Kashrut” (כַּשְׁרוּת) is the Jewish law detailing what foods can/cannot be prepared or eaten. The Kashrut (Jewish dietary law) prohibits mixing milk dishes with meat.

A “kosher symbol” verifies that this is a kosher certified company.



Pareve (פרווה) means to be prepared without milk or meat, so “pareve” foods are considered neutral and can be eaten with either milk or meat dishes.

Kosher symbols are a seal of authenticity that help consumers buy legitimate kosher products.

The Kashrut laws extend beyond what to cover the way an animal should be killed, the way it should be checked for defects, which parts are kosher.

Jesus' Apostles (Luke 6:12-16)

- The Greek term for “apostles” (apostolōn ἀποστόλων) means to “to send with official authority.”
- Christians continue to be Christ’s representatives; the word “Christian” was first used in the church in Antioch to mean “Little Christ.” (Acts 11:26, 26:28; 1 Peter 4:16)
- Jesus gave legal authority (exousian ἐξουσίαν) over both the demons and disease.

The Four Lists of the Twelve Apostles

	Matthew 10:2-4	Mark 3:16-19	Luke 6:12-19	Acts 1:13
1.	Simon	Simon	Simon	Peter
2.	Andrew	James	Andrew	James
3.	James	John	James	John
4.	John	Andrew	John	Andrew
5.	Philip	Philip	Philip	Philip
6.	Bartholomew	Bartholomew	Bartholomew	Thomas
7.	Thomas	Matthew	Matthew	Bartholomew
8.	Matthew	Thomas	Thomas	Matthew
9.	James (son of Alpheus)	James (son of Alpheus)	James (son of Alpheus)	James (son of Alpheus)
10.	Thaddeus	Thaddeus	Simon (the Zealot)	Simon (the Zealot)
11.	Simon (the Zealot)	Simon (the Zealot)	Judas (son of James)	Judas (son of James)
12.	Judas Iscariot	Judas Iscariot	Judas Iscariot	

The “Apostles” of Scripture

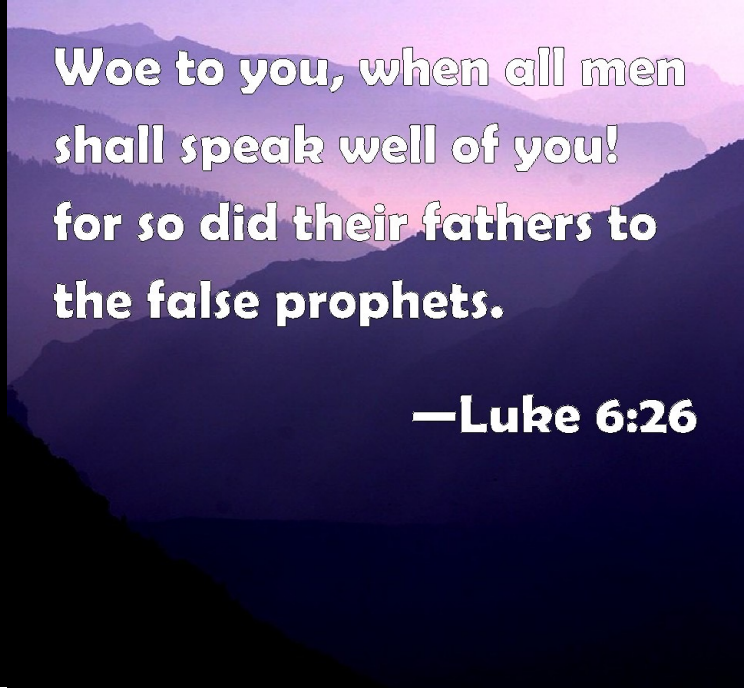
- Barnabas and Paul were included as an apostle (Acts 14:14)
- James - the leader of the Jerusalem church (Galatians 1:19)
- Apollos (1 Corinthians 4:6-9)
- Timothy & Silvanus (1 Thessalonians 1:1, 2:6)
- Andronicus & Junia (Romans 16:7)
- Some believers have been given the spiritual gifts to be apostles (1 Corinthians 12:29; Revelation 18:20)
- Several times the Greek term “apostolōn” is translated as “messengers.”
 - Epaphroditus (Philippians 2:25)
 - Two unnamed apostles (2 Corinthians 8:23)
- Jesus is also called an apostle (Hebrews 3:1 - John 12:49)

“Jesus proclaimed, as he taught in the temple, ‘You know me, and you know where I come from. But I have not come of my own accord. He who sent me is true, and him you do not know.’” John 7:28

The Warning that Follows the Beatitudes (Luke 6:24-26)

**These curses are unique to the Book of Luke;
the idea of a curse simply infers more sadness or hurt.**

- Wealth often impedes the choice to completely follow the Lord; wealth can bring an illusion of self-sufficiency.
- Although some people enjoy the pain of others or personal pleasures of the world now, they will grieve the sin in the future.
- God's people should seek His favor instead of the favor of fallen men. The religious leaders of that time were very popular as they strategized on ways to catch and kill Christ. (Mark 12:38-40)



**Woe to you, when all men
shall speak well of you!
for so did their fathers to
the false prophets.**

—Luke 6:26

The Greek term for “received” (αρεχετε ἀπέχετε) is an accounting term for payment.

The Widow's Son in Nain (Luke 7:11-17)

Jewish funerals often have festive atmospheres with flutes and many loudly wailing.

- One reason that middle eastern funerals are loud events is due to the fact that the dead are buried very quickly.
- Professional mourners were also employed to begin the wailing, so that others might feel prone to cry.
- Clothing worn to funerals was also frequently torn out of anguish. The Talmud contained 39 instructions on the process of tearing garments at funerals.

Scripture Records that Jesus Raised Three from the Dead (beyond Himself)

Luke 7:11-17	Widow of Nain's Son
Luke 8:49-56	Jairus Daughter
John 11:1-44	Lazarus

"Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, 'A great prophet has arisen among us!' and 'God has visited his people!'"

Luke 7:16

- Elijah and Elisha lived in the area of Galilee and had also raised people from the dead, so they would have seen the similarities.
- Moses had prophesied that a prophet like himself would come (Acts 3:22)



The "Messianic Prophecy" of Moses

"I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him."

Deuteronomy 18:18

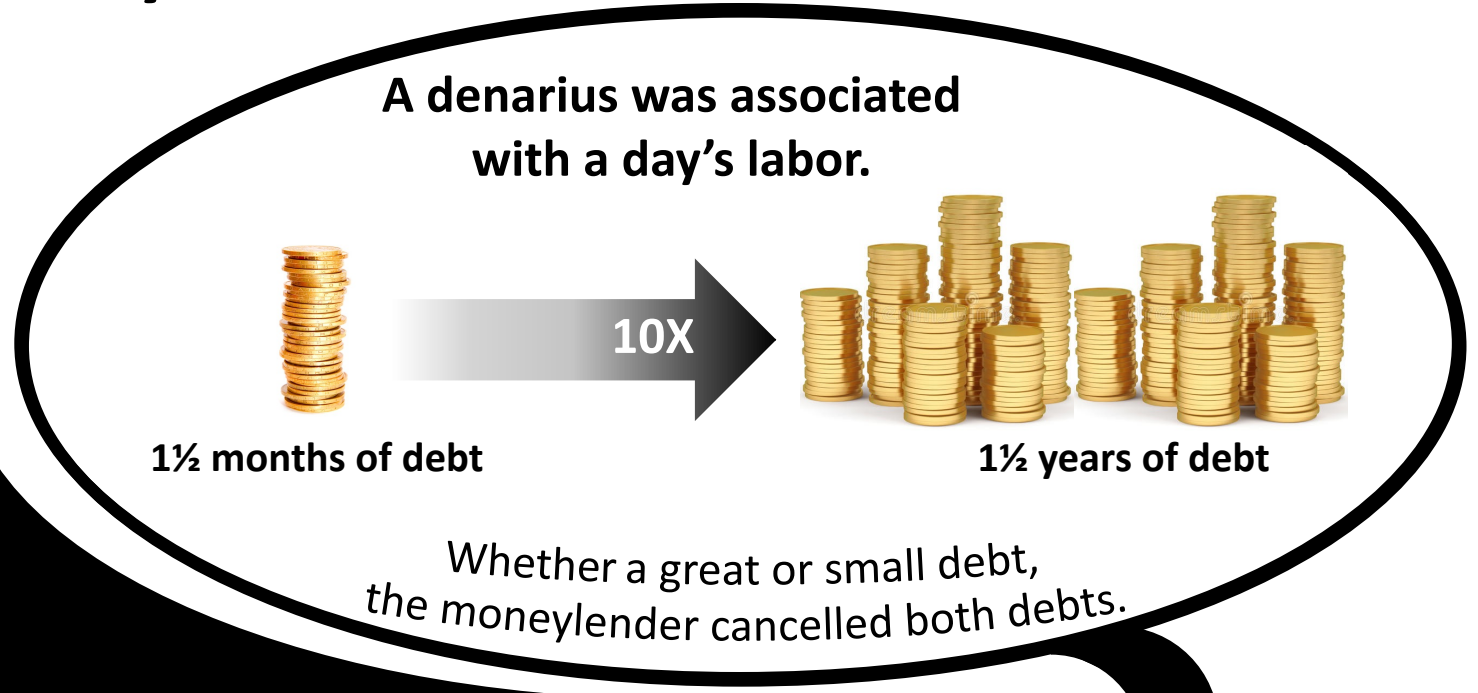
The Capacity to Love (Luke 7:40-50)

Simon (“who hears/obeys”) the Pharisee recognized Jesus as “teacher”

The Name of “Simon” Was Common in Scripture

1. Simon Peter	Matthew 4:18
2. Simon the Zealot	Matthew 10:4
3. Simon – Jesus’ Brother	Matthew 13:55
4. Simon the Leper	Matthew 26:6
5. Simon of Cyrene	Matthew 27:32
6. Simon the Pharisee	Luke 7:40
7. Simon – Judas Iscariot’s Father	John 6:71
8. Simon Magnus/Magician	Acts 8:9
9. Simon the Tanner	Acts 9:43

Faith → Salvation → Peace (Luke 7:50)



The Greek term for “faith” (pistis πίστις) represents man’s trust in God’s faithfulness

“He cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?”

“The one for whom he cancelled the larger debt.”

Failure of the Pharisee

(Luke 7:44-46)

	Pharisee	Prostitute	
1.	Did not wash feet of Jesus	Washed feet of Jesus with tears	<i>Acquaintance</i>
2.	Gave no greeting kiss to Jesus	Continually kissed the feet of Jesus	<i>Friend</i>
3.	Did not anoint the head of Jesus with oil	Anointed even the feet of Jesus with oil	<i>King/Lord</i>

The Calling of Christ (Luke 9:57-62)

Following Jesus

(Luke 9:57-62)

1.	Lk 9:57-58	Man comes to Jesus	Comforts of the World
2.	Lk 9:59-60	Jesus calls man	Relationships of the World
3.	Lk 9:61-62	Man comes to Jesus	Work

First Use in the New Testament

*“And Jesus said to him, ‘Foxes have holes, and birds **of** the air have nests, but the **Son of Man** has nowhere to lay his head.’”*

Matthew 8:20

Last Use in the New Testament

“Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and seated on the cloud one like a son of man, with a golden crown on his head, and a sharp sickle in his hand.”

Revelation 14:14

The Turning Point of Luke's Gospel

Luke 1:1-4	The Preface	More Miracles (Action)
Luke 1:5-2:52	The Births of John the Baptist & Jesus	
Luke 3:1-4:13	The Preparation of the Ministry of Jesus	
Luke 4:14-9:9	The Ministry of Jesus in Near Galilee	
Luke 9:10-9:50	The Ministry of Jesus to Regions Further from Galilee	More Lessons (Narrative)
Luke 9:51-13:21	The Ministry of Jesus in Judea	
Luke 13:22-19:27	The Ministry of Jesus in and around Perea	
Luke 19:28-24:53	The Last Days of Jesus in Jerusalem	

“When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.”

Luke 9:51

Feeding of 5,000

(Luke 9:10-17)

Feeding of 5,000

- West Side of Sea of Galilee
- Primarily Jewish Location

KOPHINOUS

“Hand-basket” (kophinous κοφίνους) describes a large, sturdy wicker basket (Matthew 14:20, 16:9; Mark 8:19; John 6:13)



The Table of Nations (Genesis 10)

- Genesis chapter 10 is often referenced as the Table of Nations.
- It is a genealogical list of the founders of **seventy nations** which descended from Noah through his three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.
- Twenty-six of the seventy descended from Shem, thirty from Ham, and fourteen from Japheth.

“When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, He fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God.”

Deuteronomy 32:8

“And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place.”

Acts 17:26

THE TABLE OF NATIONS (Genesis 10)

1st & 2nd Generation	1 Noah (70 Nations)						
	1.1 Japheth (14 Nations)		1.2 Shem (26 Nations)		1.3 Ham (30 Nations)		
3rd Generation	<u>1.1 Japheth</u> 1.1.1 Gomer 1.1.2 Magog 1.1.3 Madai 1.1.4 Javan 1.1.5 Tubal 1.1.6 Meshech 1.1.7 Tiras		<u>1.2 Shem</u> 1.2.1 Elam 1.2.2 Asshur 1.2.3 Arphachshad 1.2.4 Lud 1.2.5 Aram		<u>1.3 Ham</u> 1.3.1 Cush 1.3.2 Egypt 1.3.3 Put 1.3.4 Canaan		
4th Generation	<u>1.1.1 Gomer</u> 1.1.1.1 Ashkenaz 1.1.1.2 Riphath 1.1.1.3 Togamah	<u>1.1.4 Javan</u> 1.1.4.1 Elishah 1.1.4.2 Tarshish 1.1.4.3 Kittim 1.1.4.4 Dodanim	<u>1.2.3 Arphachshad</u> 1.2.3.1 Shelah	<u>1.2.4 Aram</u> 1.2.4.1 Uz 1.2.4.2 Hul 1.2.4.3 Gether 1.2.4.4 Mash	<u>1.3.1 Cush</u> 1.3.1.1 Nimrod 1.3.1.2 Seba 1.3.1.3 Havilah 1.3.1.4 Sabbah 1.3.1.5 Raamah 1.3.1.6 Sabteca	<u>1.3.2 Egypt</u> 1.3.2.1 Ludim 1.3.2.2 Anamim 1.3.2.3 Lehabim 1.3.2.4 Naphtuhim 1.3.2.5 Pathrusim 1.3.2.6 Casutim 1.3.2.7 Caphtorim	<u>1.3.4 Canaan</u> 1.3.4.1 Sidon 1.3.4.2 Hittites 1.3.4.3 Jebusites 1.3.4.4 Amorites 1.3.4.5 Gergashites 1.3.4.6 Hivites 1.3.4.7 Akkites 1.3.4.8 Sinites 1.3.4.9 Arvadites 1.3.4.10 Zemarites 1.3.4.11 Hamathites
5th Generation	<u>1.2.3.1 Shelah</u> 1.2.3.1.1 Eber			<u>1.3.1.5 Raamah</u> 1.3.1.5.1 Sheba 1.3.1.5.2 Dedan			
6th Generation	<u>1.2.3.1.1 Eber</u> 1.2.3.1.1.1 Peleg 1.2.3.1.1.2 Joktan						
7th Generation	<u>1.2.3.1.1.2 Joktan</u> 1.2.3.1.1.2.1 Almodad 1.2.3.1.1.2.2 Sheleph 1.2.3.1.1.2.3 Hazarmaveth 1.2.3.1.1.2.4 Jerah 1.2.3.1.1.2.5 Hadsam 1.2.3.1.1.2.6 Uzal 1.2.3.1.1.2.7 Oklah 1.2.3.1.1.2.8 Obal 1.2.3.1.1.2.9 Abimael 1.2.3.1.1.2.10 Sheba 1.2.3.1.1.2.11 Ophir 1.2.3.1.1.2.12 Havilah 1.2.3.1.1.2.13 Jobab						

Sending of the Mission Teams (Luke 10:5-12)

Sending of the Twelve

(Luke 9:1-6)

- When Jesus sent out the twelve, this may correspond to the twelve tribes of Israel; however, now Jesus was broadening the gospel message to the world.
 - Jesus had told the twelve not to go to the Gentiles or the Samaritans (Matthew 10:5-6).

Sending of the Seventy

(Luke 10:1-12)

- These 70 may have been a reflection of Moses' 70 elders (Num 11:16-25) or it may have reflected the usurped authority of the 70 Sanhedrin by the Roman Government.
- Jews also considered there to be 70 nations around the world (The 70 families in the "Table of Nations" in Genesis 10) signifying that Jesus chosen should minister to all nations.

- A "son of peace" represents all of those that the Lord has chosen for eternal salvation (Eph 2:14; Col 1:20)
 - The phrase "Son of..." is a Hebraic way to describe characteristics of an individual.
- The expression to "shake the dust off your feet" was a cultural idiom as a sign of judgment (Acts 13:51, 18:6).
 - Jewish travelers would knock the dust from their feet after leaving the land of Samaria as they entered Jewish territory (i.e., Judea).

- Believers should wisely interact with unbelievers without being gullible or enticed by the things of the world that have become the false gods of unbelievers (occupations; hobbies; sports; politics; etc.).
- Degrees (levels) of punishment exist in eternity (2 Pet 2:17; Jude 13; Jn 19:11); it will be worse for those who reject the message than those who live in sin unaware.

Rejection of Jesus (Luke 10:13-16)

Chorazin (“the secret mystery”)

- Only two miles from the headquarters of Jesus ministry at Capernaum.
- Scripture doesn’t record any works or sermons in Chorazin; their sin may not have been an outright rejection, but instead they may have simply, apathetically ignored Jesus.

Bethsaida (“house of fish”)

- The home of Philip, Andrew, and Peter (John 1:44, 12:21).
- Jesus reportedly restored a blind man's sight at a place just outside of Bethsaida. (Luke 9:10-11)
- Jesus miraculously feeds five thousand near Bethsaida.

Capernaum (“Village of Nahum”)

- The headquarters of His ministry
- Jesus performed more miracles and preached more sermons in Capernaum than any other place in Scripture.



Tyre and Sidon (modern Lebanon)

- Phoenician (Gentile) commercial centers at that time (Isaiah 23; Ezekiel 26-28)
- Although urban cities often represent a concentration of sin and pollution, Tyre and Sidon would have received Christ if given the opportunity of Israel.

Degrees of Punishment (Luke 10:13-16)

“Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.”
Matthew 10:15

“Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and love greetings in the marketplaces... They will receive the greater condemnation.” Luke 20:46-47

“Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace?”

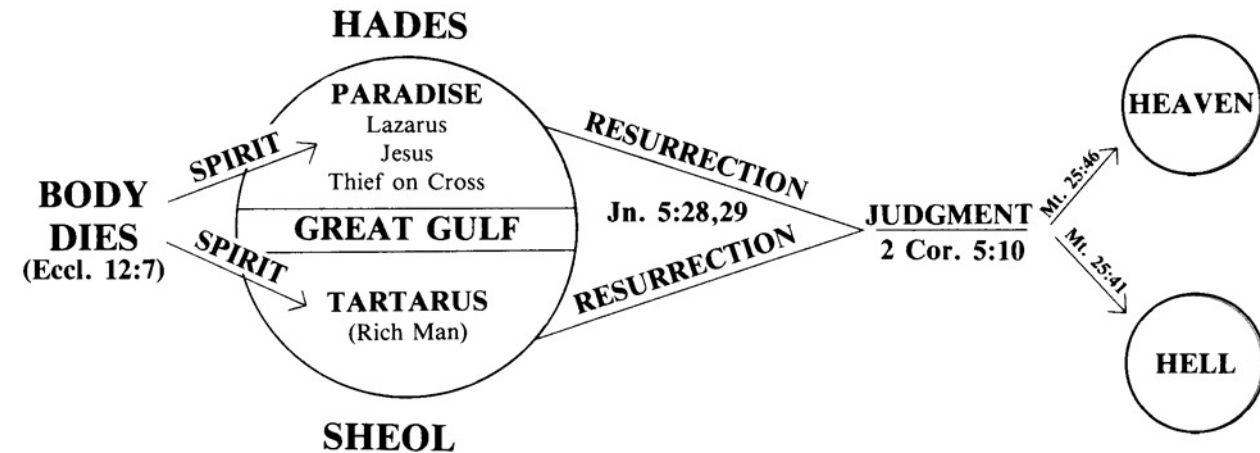
Hebrews 10:29

“For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them.”

2 Peter 2:21

“Hades” (hadou ᾍδου)

- The term “Hades” (Sheol/Grave in the Old Testament) was considered by the Jews, the holding place for the dead with two divisions:
 - Paradise for God’s people (Luke 16:19-31)
 - Tartarus for those who rebelled against God (2 Peter 2:4).
- Hades is different from Gehenna which refers to hell after the judgment.



Return of the Seventy (Luke 10:17-20)

Two End Time Books of God (Daniel 7:10; Revelations 20:12)

The Book of Life (God's People)

Exodus 32:32-33
 Psalm 69:28
 Daniel 12:1
 Luke 10:20
 Philippians 4:3
 Revelation 3:5; 17:8

The Book of Remembrances/Works (All People)

Psalm 56:8, 139:16
 Isaiah 65:6
 Malachi 3:16

Believers are to rejoice in salvation and find joy in the "eternal" instead of the worldly "temporal."

- These scorpion stingers represent false religious leaders who will distort the Word of God
 - *"You dwell among scorpions be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house"* Ezekiel 2:6
 - *"The ancient and honorable, he is the head; and the prophet that teaches lies, he is the tail."* Isaiah 9:15
- The scorpion (like the snake & locust) is likened to evil spiritual beings.
 - *"Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, wherein were fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought?"* Deuteronomy 8:15
 - *"And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads"*
 Revelation 9:3-10

"Do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." Luke 10:20

The Questioning Scribe (Luke 10:25-29)

Scribes were experts in the oral (Mishnah) and written (Tanakh) laws; interpreters and copyists of God's law

The recognition of Jesus as a "Rabbi" (a teacher) is always an understatement of who Jesus is.

- Jesus is more than simply a "good" man that mankind can learn from or emulate.
- Jesus is Lord of all; He is divine.

*"You shall love your neighbor as yourself:
I am the LORD."* Leviticus 19:18

With the same unselfish nature as the greatest commandment, the second commandment asserts that mankind should care for each other as each man cares for himself.

Shema Yisrael (שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל) "Hear, O Israel "

"You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength." Deuteronomy 6:5

- The Scriptural passage of Deuteronomy 6:4-9 is called "the Shema."
- The Shema is the oldest fixed daily prayer in Judaism.
 - The Shema is one of only two prayers that are specifically commanded in Torah (the other is *Birkat Ha-Mazon* - grace after meals – Deuteronomy 8:10).
 - Every Jewish service begins with the Shema.
 - The Shema consists of three Bible passages with the others being Deuteronomy 11:13-21 and Numbers 15:37-41).

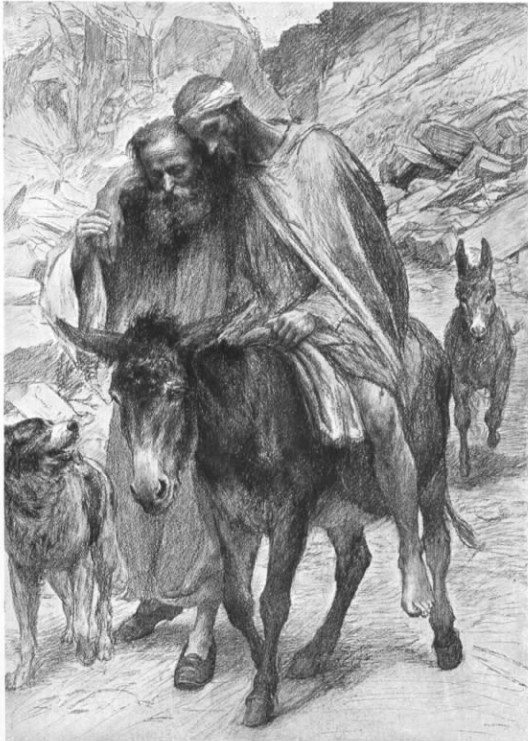
"...desiring to justify himself..."

While the law states *"do this and you will live"* – no one can *"do this."* However, grace says *"live, and you will do this."*

The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37)

The “Bloody Way”

- The road from Jerusalem “down” to Jericho is a 17-mile trip and a 3,000-foot decline.
- This path was known for bandits and assaults.
- The Latin priest Jerome (in the 4th century) called this route the “bloody way.”



In the Torah, Priests are given explicit instructions not to touch a dead corpse (Lev 21:1-3). If the priest had become unclean by touching a corpse, he would need to undergo an elaborate ritual cleansing lasting 7 days. (Num 19:2-13; Ez 44:24-27) This would have rendered priests virtually useless for an entire week.

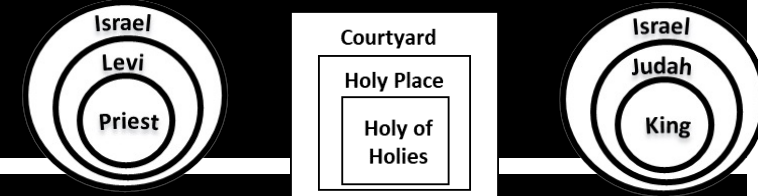
Samaritans represented “despised foreigners.” During the Assyrian exile of the northern kingdom of Israel (722BC), Assyria replaced Israelites with Gentiles who had also been exiled from their homelands by Assyria. (2 Kings 17:24-41)

The scribe did not state “Samaritan” in his answer

Fellow Pilgrims

1. Priest
2. Levite
3. Samaritan

“...when he saw him,
he passed by on the other side...”



“Certain” (tis τις) Men of The Good Samaritan Story

Luke 10:30	A “Certain” Man	Anthrōpos tis - ἄνθρωπος τις
Luke 10:31	A “Certain” Priest	Hiereus tis - ἱερεὺς τις
Luke 10:32	A “Levite”	Leuitēs - Λευίτης
Luke 10:33	A “Certain” Samaritan	Samaritēs tis – Σαμαρίτης τις

The term “certain” is not used with the Levite

The Gifts

The good Samaritan is also a type of Jesus as he gives oil (spirit) and wine (life and blood) to the one who is dying as he was going his own way.

The Payment

- A denarii represented a day’s wage while “two” signifies testimony.
- When the Samaritan “savior” returned, he would pay off all debts.

The Traveler

Rejected by Jewish experts in the law while accepted by the Gentile

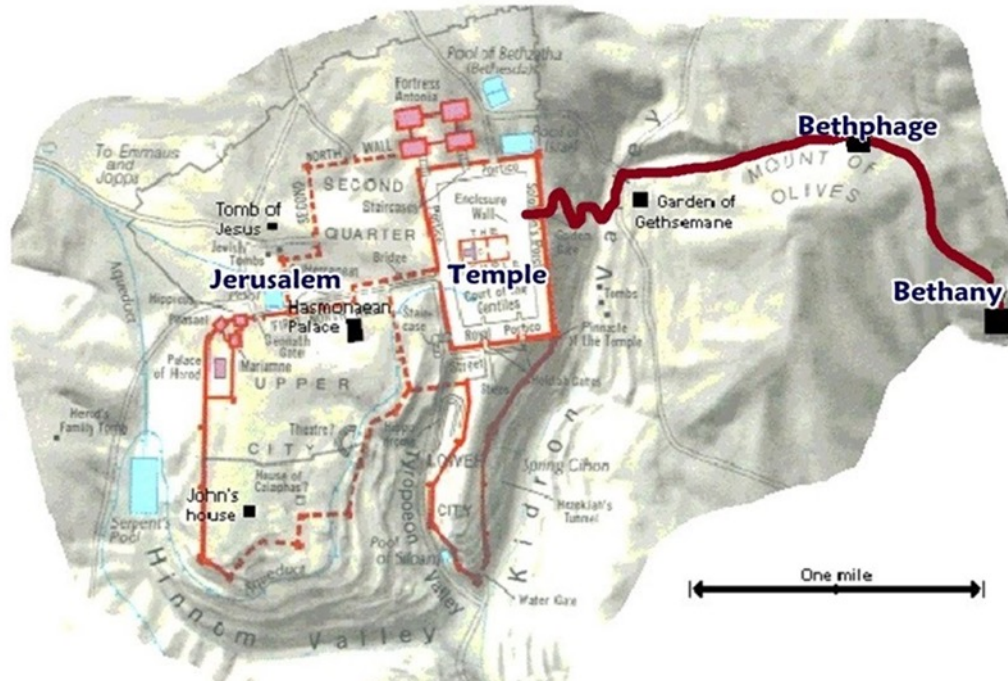
Sitting With Jesus (Luke 10:38-42)

Mary and Martha lived in Bethany (with their brother, Lazarus) on the eastern slope of the Mount of Olives, about two miles from Jerusalem.

- Martha (meaning “mistress”) owned the home and welcomed Jesus.
- Mary (meaning “beloved”) is always submissively and attentively at Jesus’ feet (John 11:32, 12:3)

- During the Jewish Feast of the year, it was a mandatory requirement that the local homes take pilgrims as boarders during that crowded time.
- Bethany seems to be the favorite place for Jesus to lodge at night (as well as the Mount of Olives)

Jewish Scribes would not teach women, so Jewish women did not have the benefit of much teaching.



Martha’s Request

- Distracted with much serving.
- “Lord, do you not care?”
- Tell her then to help me.

Jesus’ Response

- Martha, Martha
- “You are anxious and troubled about many things”
- “But one thing is necessary”

“Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.”

James 4:8

The Sign of Jonah (Luke 11:29-32)

- The Jews considered the “heart of the earth” as Jerusalem.
- The Romans named the Mediterranean Sea:
 - The Latin name means “Middle of the Earth”
 - It is a compound noun composed of “medius” (meaning “middle”) and “terra” (meaning “earth”).



The Jews wanted a miraculous sign while the Greeks (Gentiles) desired knowledge
(1 Corinthians 1:22)

- As Jonah had been in the fish for three days and nights, so too would Jesus spend three days and nights in the heart of the earth prior to resurrection (Matthew 12:40).
- Three nights would pass from the night of His arrest in the garden until His resurrection.

Solomon (King)

The Queen of Sheba had traveled nearly 1,400 miles (from Yemen) to Jerusalem where she marveled at the King as a Gentile.



Jonah (Prophet)

Jonah had traveled 560 miles from Joppa to Nineveh, and yet the Assyrian Gentiles believed his warning.



Jesus had traveled from heaven to earth, yet Israel did not believe.

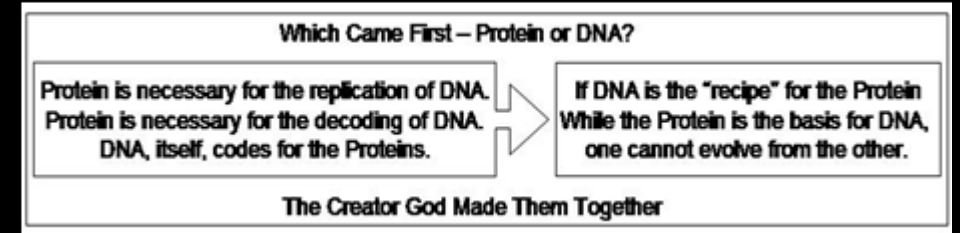
Do Not Fear Men (Luke 12:4-7)

- Regardless of public persecution of believers (e.g., by the media, peers, pundits), the truth of God’s word will continue to spread in this deceitful world. (Luke 12:2-12)
- False accusations will either come to light in this world or at the final judgment (1 Cor 4:5). At the judgment seat, everyone will give an account of the way that they represented and glorified God in a fallen world. (Psalm 56:9, 139:16, Isaiah 65:6, Malachi 3:16)



“Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”

- The Greek term for “hell” (geennan γένναν) referred to the garbage dump south of Jerusalem.
 - As the town trash dump, Gehenna smoldered with fire day and night. (2 Thessalonians 1:9; Revelation 14:11)
- Gehenna originates from “Ge” - “valley and “Hinnom.”
- The valley of Hinnom was the location that children sacrifices were made to Molech (Deuteronomy 12:31; Leviticus 20:2-5; 2 Kings 16:3, 17:17, 21:6, 23:10; 2 Chronicles 28:3, 33:6; Jeremiah 7:31, 19:4-5, 32:35; Ezekiel 16:20-21, 20:26, 23:37; Psalm 106:35-38)
- Scripture is abundantly clear that child sacrifices were wrong (Leviticus 18:21; Deuteronomy 18:10)



“Even the hairs of your head are all numbered.”

Number of Hairs can correlate to Hair Color	
Blonde	150,000
Brown	110,000
Black	100,000
Red	90,000

Followers of Christ Testify (Luke 12:8-12)

- The Greek term for “acknowledge” is “homologēsei” (ὁμολογήσει)
 - “homou” (meaning “the same”)
 - “legó” (meaning “to speak”)
- The literal meaning is to “confess the same thing as.”
- The term “homologēsei” is used in “confessing one’s sins” (1 John 1:9) as well as a “public acknowledgment” of faith in Christ (Matthew 10:32).

- The term “Son of Man” emphasizes the humanity of the Messiah as God incarnate became part of mankind.
 - The divine transportation of clouds was also used by the “Son of Man” (Daniel 7:13); clouds also describe Jesus’ ascension and coming again. (Acts 1:9-11).
 - The term “Son of Man” combined fully God and fully man without the militaristic expectations of other Messianic titles.
 - Ezekiel utilized this term to represent humanity and mankind.

The “unpardonable sin” is mentioned in all three of the synoptic gospels (Matthew 12:31-32; Mark 3:28; Luke 12:10)

“In your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.”

1 Peter 3:15

Believers should always be prepared, but never worry because the Spirit of God will lead in what to say (1 Corinthians 2:1).

“Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

2 Timothy 2:15

Self-Centered Planning (Luke 12:13-21)

Christianity is a shift from selfish living to selfless giving.

“Watch out and be on guard against all greed because one's life is not in the abundance of his possessions.”

“Everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.”

Ephesians 5:5

“Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.”

Colossians 3:5

“...and he thought to himself...”
Luke 12:17

The Greek term for “soul” (psyche ψυχή) is the root word of psychology which means “self.”

Simple Math

$$\begin{array}{r} \$1 \\ - \$1 \\ \hline 0 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{r} \$1,000,000 \\ - \$1,000,000 \\ \hline 0 \end{array}$$

The individual who has the most when he dies, is the individual who loses the most.



“God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’

So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

Do Not Worry (Luke 12:22-30)



- The Greek term for “worry” is “merimnaó” (μεριμνάω)
 - “merizó” (meaning “to divide”)
 - “nous” (meaning “the mind”)
- The literal meaning of “worry” is to “divide the mind.”

Scriptural Reasons Not to Worry

Luke 12:24	The Heavenly Father will provide
Luke 12:25-26	Worry doesn't help & can result in negative consequences
Luke 12:27-28	God has eternal plans instead of worldly temporal matters

Researchers report:

- 40% of worrisome concerns never occur
- 30% of the things that do occur are consequences of something that has already happened and cannot be changed
- 12% of worry comes from criticism (worries) of others
- 10% of worry are conjectures of one's future health
- 8% of worry legitimately occur

Quoth the Raven – “Nevermore”

- Ravens are viewed as insatiable, ravenous creatures that are unable to satisfy their own needs (Job 38:41; Ps 147:9).
- The raven is the largest species of songbird and the largest all-black bird in the world.
- Ravens are omnivorous eating both plants and animals; they are both scavenger and predator of small animals.
- Ravens are common to garbage dumps and can search out food in unique places.

If God provides for unclean birds (Leviticus 11:15; Psalm 147:9), then He will certainly provide for His children.

Worry reflects a lack of faith.

Many weary people continue to strive when the Lord says to not worry about food or drink.

Elijah Fed by Ravens (1 Kings 17:1-7)



Give to the Needy (Luke 12:31-34)

Fear seems to be one of the biggest motivators & challenges

Getting rid of assets reduces covetousness

Scripture never defines wealthy or needy; it is a matter of the heart

What is your "eternal portfolio?"

"Fear not, little

our Father's

give you the kingdom

Sell your possessions, and give to the needy.

Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys.

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Your treasure and heart cannot be separated; what do you treasure?

What are your worries?
What are your goals?
What are your dreams?

Giving (Luke 12:31-34)

“Give Away All”

- The Rich Young Ruler (Lk 19:21)
- The Poor Widow (Mt 12:44)

“Partial Giving Away Was Commended”

- Zacchaeus Gave Half (Lk 19:8)
- Barnabas Sold a Field (Acts 4:37)

“Set Aside Offerings As You Prosper”

- Paul Collected for Jerusalem (1 Cor 16:1)

“Do Not Be Dependent On Others”

- Aspire to Work (1 Thessalonians 4:11-12)
- Don't be Idle (2 Thessalonians 3:7-12)

“Work to Enable Charity”

- Stop Stealing; Work to Give (Eph 4:28)

“Not Just About Percentages”

Think of actual people that you know who have needs...

Do you love your “neighbor” at a cost to yourself?

The Good Samaritan had a donkey, oil and wine to use for the hurting and abandoned traveler...

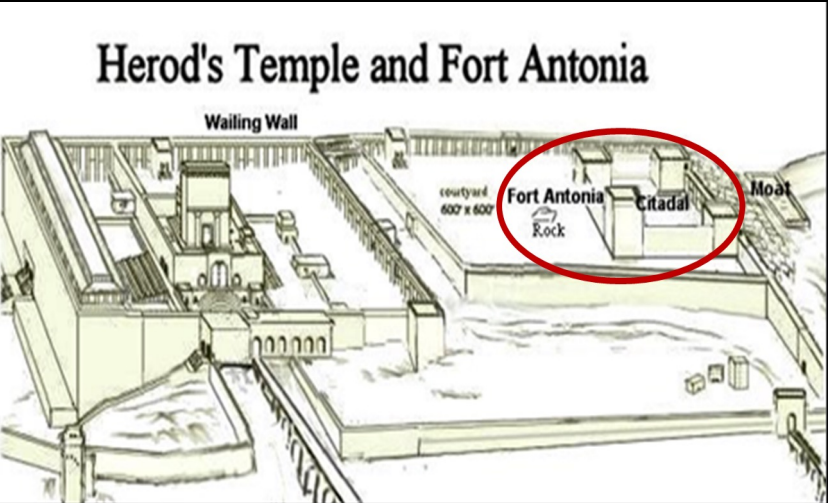
“All That You Own & Are Belongs to the Lord”

Beyond charity – consider every expenditure in a Kingdom advancing perspective.

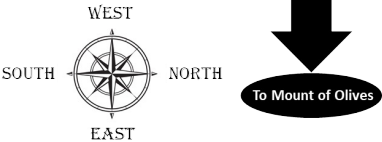
Everything you give, pay, do or say should be for His Kingdom.

“Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.”

Repent or Perish (Luke 13:1-5)



Only mention of Pilate outside of the crucifixion.



**Political,
Ritualistic
Sacrifices**

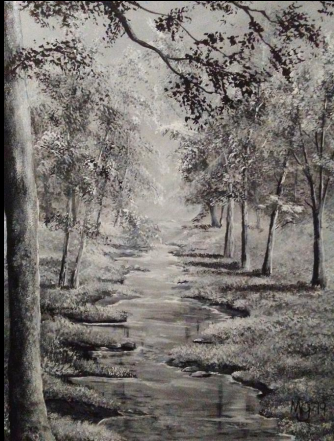
“Do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem?”

No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”



Tower of Siloam

Trust in Jesus



Isaiah 8:6-7

**Faith in
Worldly
Security**

“The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe.”

Proverbs 18:10

- Pilate was probably located in the Antonia Fortress because the “Bema” (Matthew 27:19) and the “Praetorium” (Matthew 27:27; John 18:28, 33; 19:3) were both located in the Antonia Fortress which was 115 feet high and overlooked the Temple.
- The Antonia Fortress was constructed in 35BC in honor of Herod’s Roman friend, Mark Antony, who had requested the Roman Senate confirm Herod as King of Judea.
- Six hundred Roman soldiers were garrisoned in the Antonia Fortress in order to preserve order from Jewish riots (Acts 21:37).

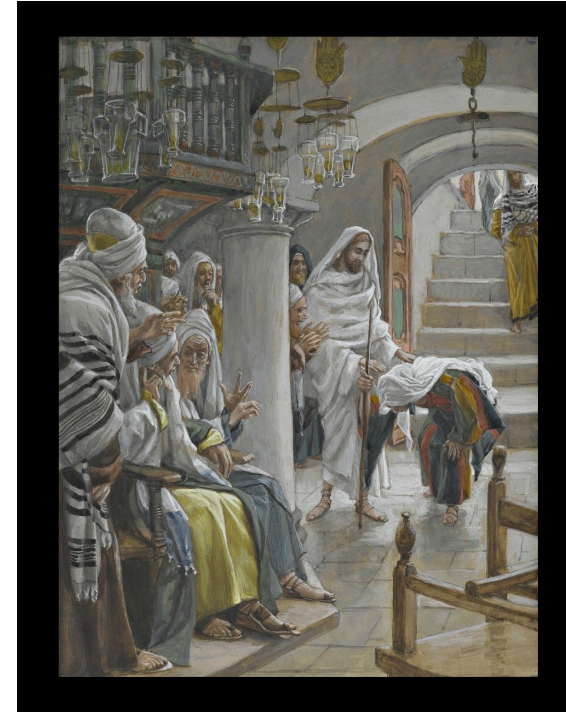
- Beginning with Babel (Gen 11), man put his trust in his own efforts/towers, but manmade towers never protected (Judges 8:17, 9:49; Lk 14:28).
- The Lord is the only one who can truly bring salvation (2 Sam 22:50-51). Siloam (“sent”) would later be the used to heal a blind man who trusted in Jesus (Jn 9:7).
- This little stream is also referenced (Is 8:6-7) in regard to trusting in God’s faithful sustenance versus man’s overwhelming disaster.

Sabbath Healing of the Crooked Woman (Matthew 13:10-17)

- Although Jesus did not lay hands on demon possessed individuals, His statement of the woman being “freed” may have equated to the casting out of the demon.
- Jesus freed the woman from the confinement of the overbearing Satanic spirit. For years she had walked with her head down, but when Jesus healed her, she no longer had to hang her head.
- Upon being touched by Jesus, the woman was immediately restored and praised God.

The 18 years of disability correlates to the 18 people who died at Siloam. Her disease may not have been a result of her sin.

This woman was healed through the power of the Lord instead of trusting in manmade efforts (tower of Siloam) which brings disaster.



Religious organizations need to be careful that “the system” is never prioritized higher than “the people.”

- The Greek term for “hypocrite” (ὕποκριται) in the New Testament was only used by Jesus.
- The root of the word “hypocrite” is a compound noun based on two Greek words: hypo (“under”) and κρίνω (judge).
- In the 1st century BC, actors were called “hypocrites.” In ancient times, actors wore masks, so the intent is to judge the person under the mask.

Many Will Not Be Able To Enter (Luke 13:22-30)

Jesus said to him
“I AM THE WAY
THE TRUTH
AND THE LIFE
NO ONE COMES
TO THE FATHER
EXCEPT THROUGH ME
John 14:6”

- Christianity is based on faith, not works; however, make “every effort” to get to Jesus.
- The Greek word for “strive” (Agōnizesthe Ἀγωνίζεσθε) means to engage in laborious tension; it is the etymological root word for “agony.” There is a price to be paid to be a follower of Jesus.
- Few will enter through the “narrow door” because it is “compressed” (tethlimmenē τεθλιμμένη), but it leads to life (Matthew 7:13-14).

Three Reasons for Grief at the (Messianic) Banquet

1. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob & the Prophets will be attending
2. The unbelieving Jews will be cast out
3. The Gentiles from around world will be attending

*“We ate and drank in your presence,
and you taught in our streets.”*

Reasoning on what they did...

*“But He will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you
come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!’”*

How the Lord assesses them...

The more that an individual loves (the more that an individual serves),
the greater an individual is in the kingdom of God.

The Entry of the King (Luke 13:31-35)

Religious leaders (Pharisees) used the political environment to frighten Jesus away.

- Herod had respected John the Baptist (Mk 6:20) and was interested in Jesus (Lk 9:9, 23:8).
- Knowing their intentions, Jesus brings up the fox who was crafty and deceitful according to their own wills (Ezekiel 13:3-4; Song of Solomon 2:15).

*“...and the third day
I will accomplish
my purpose.”*

Luke 13:32

*“Behold, I cast out demons
and perform cures today and tomorrow,
and the third day I finish my course.”*

Luke 13:32

Just as in the third day,
His work was completed in the
resurrection, Jesus defeated the
demonic forces and healed the sick
(even the spiritually sick –
Acts 10:38, 28:27; 1 Pet 2:24)
during the first and second days.

Jesus would complete the work that
He meant to accomplish and not be
hurried by any worldly authority.

Prophets Die in Jerusalem

According to the Jewish judicial
process, a Prophet must be
condemned by the Sanhedrin to
die, and the Sanhedrin held
court in Jerusalem.

God's Motherly Love

Genesis 1:2	The Spirit of God hovered (“brooded”) over the waters as a mother bird “broods” over her chicks.
Deuteronomy 32:11; Exodus 9:4	Bearing children upon Eagle’s wings is only performed by the mother Eagle
Isaiah 49:15	Sustenance of a nursing mother. the Hebrew word for “breast” is “Shad” which is the basis for “El Shaddai” (the powerful provider)
Hosea 11:1-4	God nursed Israel as a child

How Many Triumphal Entries Are There?

*“You will not see me until you say,
‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’”*

Luke 13:35

The term “blessed” (Eulogēmenos Εὐλογημένος) was
shouted at the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem
(Matthew 21:9; Mark 11:9; Luke 19:38; John 12:13).



Healing on the Sabbath (Luke 14:1-6)

The Seven Sunday Miracles of Jesus

1.	Mark 1:21	Jesus exorcised the demon from the man in the Capernaum synagogue
2.	Luke 4:38	Simon Peter's Mother-in-law
3.	Luke 6:6	The man in the synagogue with the withered right hand
4.	Luke 13:14	The woman in the synagogue who had been bent over by a demon for 18 years
5.	Luke 14:2	The man with dropsy that Jesus saw while dining at the rulers of the Pharisees house.
6.	John 5:9	The invalid who lay at the pool of the Sheep Gate at Bethesda for 38 years.
7.	John 9:14	Jesus covered the blind man's eyes before directing him to wash at Siloam.

The Pharisees valued property above man; healing likened to pulling son or ox out of a well. The Rabbinical thought had great compassion of animals on the Sabbath, but no compassion on fellow humans.

Healing on the Sabbath was a recurring rift between Jesus and the Pharisees; a similar event is recorded in the chapter immediately preceding this (Lk 13:14-15).

Dropsy

- The physician Luke characterizes the illness as “dropsy” which means that the bodily tissues were retaining fluids which affect the vital organs and gives the appearance of swelling.
- Massive edema (Anasarca) is a frequent sign in severely ill people that could originate from a variety of sources: chronic kidney disease; heart or liver failure; thyroid disease.
- The Rabbi's of that day believed that this illness was one that came from sinning (like leprosy or barrenness).

Parable of Those Rejecting the Banquet (Luke 14:15-24)

The Selfish Focus of “I” obstructs many from experiencing the joy of the kingdom of God.

(Luke 14:18-20)

- | | | |
|----|-------------|---|
| 1. | Possessions | “must look at what I’ve bought” |
| 2. | Business | “must use what I’ve bought” |
| 3. | Family | <i>Inference</i> - “have just paid dowry for bride” |

“For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.”

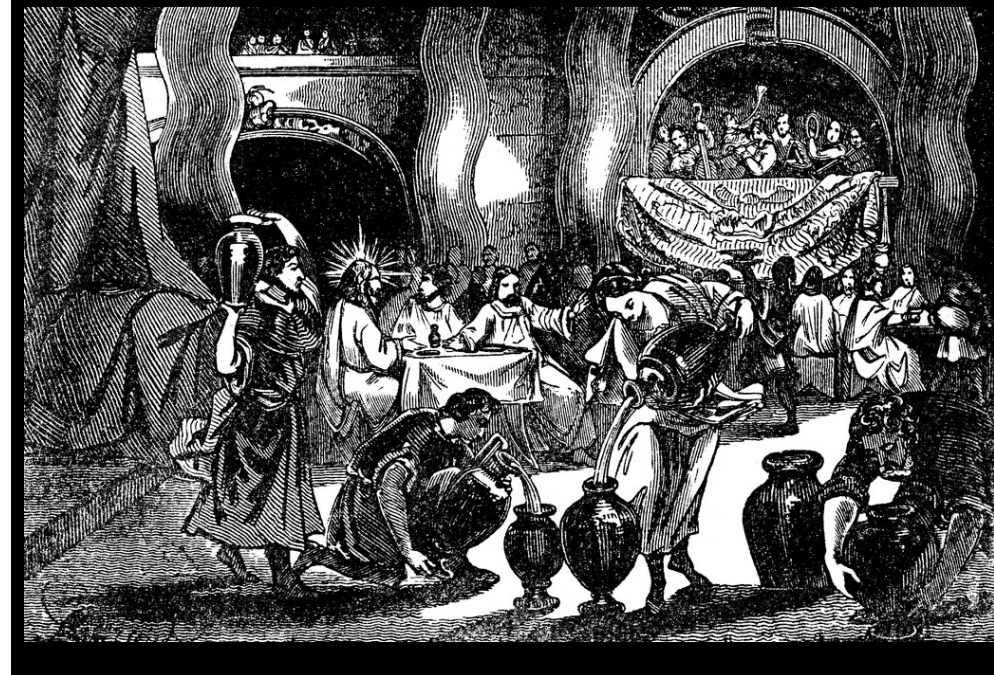
Luke 15:24

“Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’

And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’

And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled.’”

“For it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Philippians 2:13



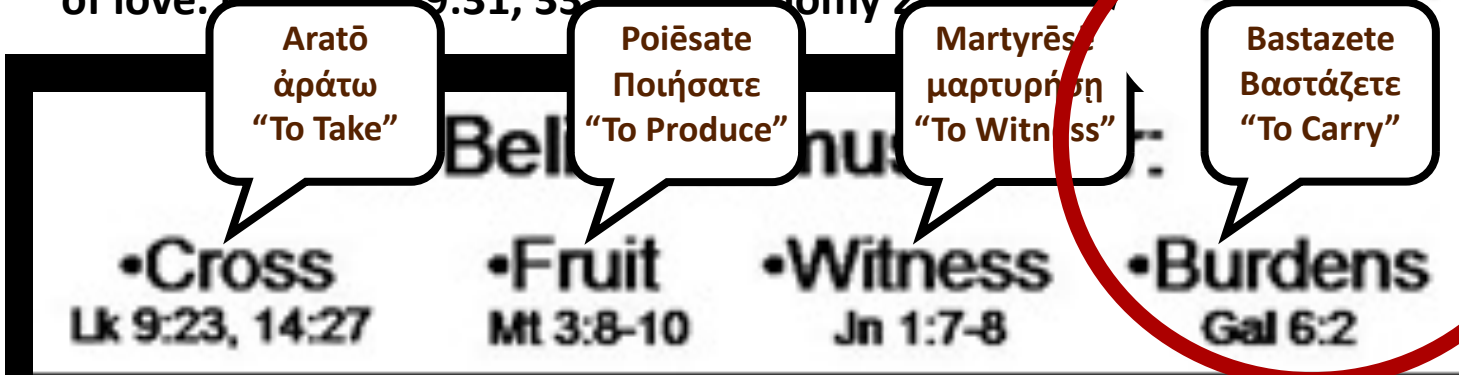
A Function of "Love" (Luke 14:25-27)

"Hate" (Greek *miseo*) means to "love less than" or "to deny" (Mt 16:24).

This is a Hebrew idiom for comparison; Instead of "hate," it is a degree of love. (Genesis 29:31, 33; Deuteronomy 21:15; Mal 2:15).

There is no word for "like" in the Arabic tongue.

Asians have only one word ("love") to express an amiable preference, and the word is used even of casual acquaintances. Extreme language is used to express even moderate relationships.



The believer's baptism is meant to show that the individual has died to self and while being made alive in Christ (Romans 6:1-14)

**It is a measure of priority and commitment.
The level of commitment for God's people needs to be sincere and increasing daily.**

One's sacrifice must be based on the right attitude of love; "if I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing." (1 Corinthians 13:3)

"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

Although God's salvation is free to accept, it will cost the believer everything.

Believers put away selfish pursuits & ambitions to live selfless lives to the glory of God and service to others.

Count the Cost (Luke 14:28-33)

The emphasis of this passage is a caution against making a quick emotional decision.

The world mocks those “fallen” believers who are not faithful to their calling.

The world does not understand believers who live sacrificial lives.

An individual is called to repent and believe so much that it impacts life choices.

A believer must either be prepared for spiritual battle in which he is greatly outnumbered, or he must (disgracefully) attempt for peace with this world.

“...but I want to think about what I’ve gained..”

The Bible doesn’t chastise this, but it does say to count the costs as well



“What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my LORD, for whose sake I have lost all things... I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ...”
Philippians 3:8

The Greek term for “give up” (Apotassetai ἀποτάσσειται) is only used once in Scripture to mean “forsake.”

“So then, none of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions.”
(Luke 14:33)

A follower of Christ must be willing to lose family, friends, fortune and life for Jesus.

The Prodigal Son Falls (Luke 15:11-16)

Two Brothers

The number “two” represents a testimony (a witness).

“The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual.” 1 Corinthians 15:46

“But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now.” Galatians 4:29

- The prodigal son represents those who pursued the world while the elder son represents the indignant Pharisees.
- The younger of the two sons (the most recent coming into the family of the Father) represent the Gentiles who are dependent on forgiveness
- In contrast, the self-righteous elder had been in the Father’s family for many years (the Jews).

- The elder son would get 2/3 of the property while the other sons received the other 1/3 (Deuteronomy 21:17); the inheritance wasn’t to be used until the father died because the father was to live on his possessions until he died.
- The Greek word “diaskopizo” and Latin word “prodigere” are both defined as wasting and squandering. Prodigal comes from the Latin root “prodigere.”



The Prodigal Son Repents (Luke 15:17-32)

Realization of Certain Death

"...he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger!'"
Luke 15:17

Repentance from Sin

"I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you.'"
Luke 15:18

Restoration to Father's Household

"...his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him."
Luke 15:20

The Dressing by the Father of the Repentant Son

(Luke 15:22)

- | | | |
|----|---------|---|
| 1. | Robe | Covered in His Righteousness |
| 2. | Ring | His Authority |
| 3. | Sandals | His Protection to interaction with this world |

This more than just changing from "bad" to "good."

Twice it is emphasized that the younger son "was dead and is now alive again; was lost and is now found" (Lk 15:24, 32).

The elder brother
"answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you...'"
Luke 15:29



This Greek term for "serve" (douleuō δουλεύω) is only used twice in Scripture

"Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin."
Romans 7:25

The Parable of the Dishonest Manager (Luke 16:1-13)

Approximately 1/3
of the parables of
Jesus have something
to do with money

- The parables of chapter 15 were of COMPARISON; however, this would be a parable of CONTRAST.
- Whether a wicked servant or an unjust judge, God's people can learn truths from them – a good example from a bad individual.

Listening In

Jesus was speaking to the disciples in the hearing of the Pharisees (Luke 16:14).

It's all Greek...

- The Greek term for “master” (kyrios κύριος) is used in Luke 16:3, 8 to describe the rich man.
- The Greek term for “accused” (dieblēthē διεβλήθη) is the etymological root word for “devil” (diabolos διάβολος).
- The word “accused” (dieblēthē) is a compound term from:
 - “dia” (meaning across, through) and
 - “bolé” (meaning “to throw”).
- The term “squandering” (diaskorpizōn διασκορπίζων) is the same descriptive term used in the prior chapter with the prodigal son (Luke 15:13).

- Every believer will be held accountable by the Lord for his actions in this life and his investments in the life to come.
- The wasteful manager must understand if he is fit to succeed after he moves beyond this position/life.
- There must come a point of revelation (Luke 16:4); similar to the prodigal son's revelation in the last chapter (Luke 15:18).
- The steward is not praised for being dishonest; however, he is praised for acting decisively. Believers are to act in love; however, believers should also be prudent (Matthew 10:16).

Rabbinical Saying: “*Rich people help the poor now, while the poor help the rich in eternity.*”

Man is a slave to whatever commands him – career, ambition, pleasure, etc. Priorities are, by their very nature, sequential. Priorities reveal your “god.”

The Heart of the Matter (Luke 16:14-17)

The Pharisees were lovers of money

"For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils."

1 Timothy 6:10

- The religious leaders were living spiritually comfortable (complacent) lives as they enjoyed the spotlight of their religious reputation.
- The spectacle and pageantry of their ceremonies drew attention from man and media, but such display and ceremony are denounced by the Lord.
- Acceptability by God is determined by motives and attitudes of the heart.

The Jewish written Word was called the Tanakh (Old Testament) consisting of 3 sections:

- the Torah (The Law),
- the Nev'im (Prophets),
- the Kethuvim (Writings).

The TaNaKh is an acronym of the Torah, Nevi'im, and Kethuvim

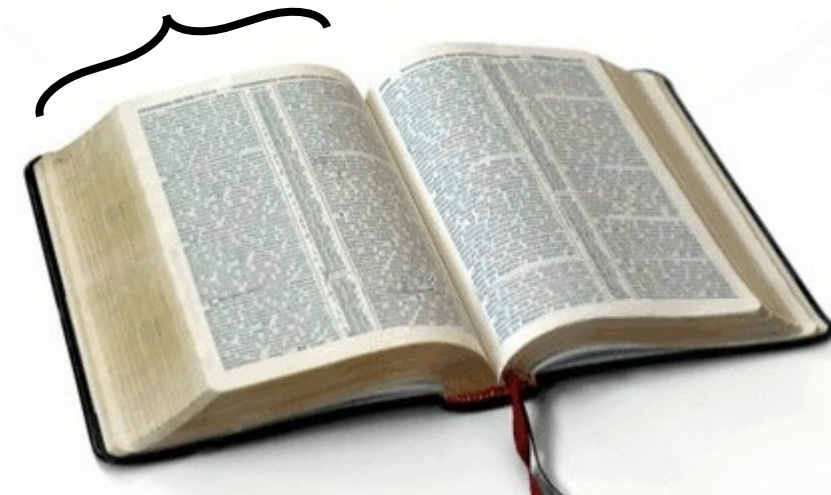
The conclusion of the Old Testament age was with John the Baptist

The "Law & Prophets" was a quick reference to the Old Testament.

Difficult spiritual truths are often stifled through ridicule and joking.

"...God knows your hearts."

"...For what is highly admired by people is revolting in God's sight."

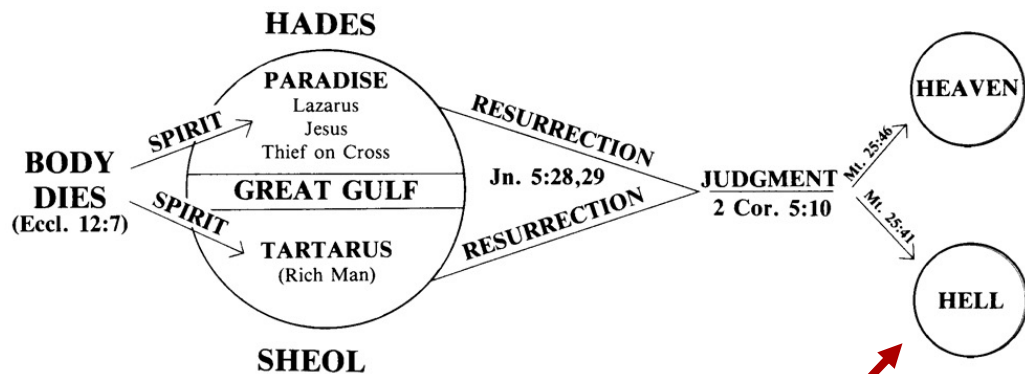


The Rich Man & Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31)

“Hades” (hadou ᾗδου)

The term “Hades” (Sheol/Grave in the Old Testament) was considered by the Jews to be the holding place for the dead with two divisions:

- Paradise for God’s people (Luke 16:19-31)
- Tartarus for those who rebelled against God (2 Pet 2:4).



Hades is different from Gehenna which refers to hell after the judgment.

- Jesus does not refer to this story as a parable.
- Jesus never identifies a person’s name in any parable; however, Lazarus is called by name does in this account.

- The name Lazarus originates from the Hebrew name “Eliezer” (“God is my helper/comforter”).

- The Greek phrase “to be fed” (chortasthēnai χορτασθῆναι) is the same statement made about the prodigal son in the prior chapter (Luke 15:16).
- This phrase is only used in Scripture three times.
- Jesus used the phrase in response to the Syrophenician Woman desiring for her daughter to be exorcised (Mark 7:27).



“He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs.”

From Self-Seeking to Selfless Serving (Luke 17:7-10)

Daily Efforts of the Servant

1 Plowing

Preparing the soil for the sowing of the seed.

Working with individuals to prepare them for His truth.

2 Shepherding

Ministering and caring for other followers of Christ.

Feeding, resting and rescuing the sheep.

- A state of constant readiness to serve the Lord.
- The comforts for the believer will come at a later time.

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works.”

Ephesians 2:8-10

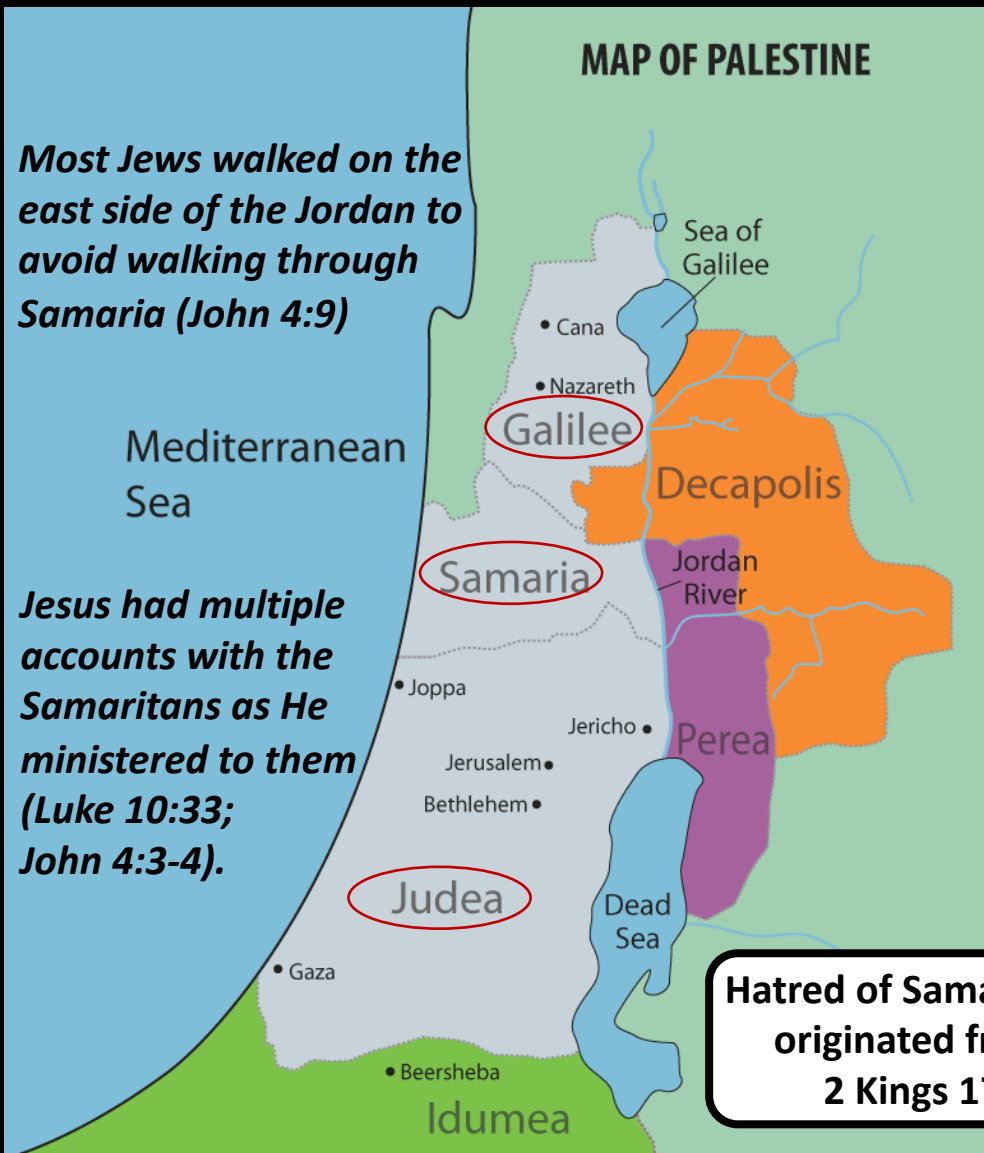
- Believers should remember that they are sinners that have been saved by grace no matter how many good works they achieve after coming to Christ.
- Believers should not become self-righteous after lengthy service.
- Believers should walk in grace (not works), and the basis of a believer’s work should be the love of God.
- Service should originate from gratitude.

The focus of the Servant should be on the Master

Sadly, sometimes Christian service begins in grace, but regresses into works.

Don’t allow your charitable heart to turn to a demand for gratitude and recognition.

The Grateful Samaritan (Luke 17:11-19)



Most Jews walked on the east side of the Jordan to avoid walking through Samaria (John 4:9)

Mediterranean Sea

Jesus had multiple accounts with the Samaritans as He ministered to them (Luke 10:33; John 4:3-4).

Hatred of Samaritans originated from 2 Kings 17

Rabbis considered lepers to have been judged by God because of sin; similar to being barren, leprosy was a divine punishment. (Leviticus 13-14)

“The priest shall examine him, and if the disease has turned white, then the priest shall pronounce the diseased person clean; he is clean.” Leviticus 13:17

Obedience to Jesus' words preceded the actual healing.

“Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice” Luke 17:15

Only one of the ten (a “tithe”) returned to the Lord with gratitude.



“Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”

The Kingdom of God (Luke 17:20-37)

“The kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed, ...for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you.” Luke 17:20-21

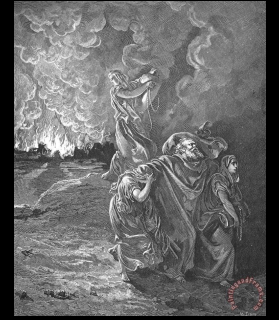
The distractions of eating, drinking, marrying, buying, selling, planting, building divert focus that should be on the Lord’s present kingdom and His second coming.

“For as the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day.” Luke 17:24

“...You followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.” Ephesians 2:2



Noah was a preacher of righteousness
Lot was a righteous man grieved by the sin around him (2 Pet 2:5-8).



- The end of times is likened to the busy days of Noah and Lot when the daily tasks hid the eminent disaster.
- The “rainfall” of Noah and “fire fall” of Lot represent the end times of judgment (2 Peter 2:5-6).

In both situations, the safe removal (rapture) of the Lord’s elect triggered the coming of judgment.

“Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it.”



“Where the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.” Luke 17:37

“Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and with a loud voice he called to all the birds that fly directly overhead, ‘Come, gather for the great supper of God, to eat the flesh...’” Revelation 19:17-18

The Prayers of the Pharisee & Publican (Luke 18:9-14)

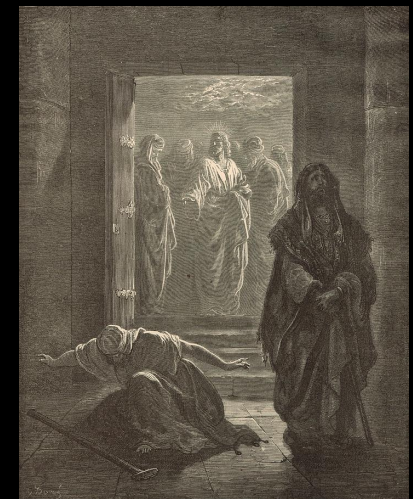
Taxes During the Time of Jesus >40%	
Religious Tax	Temple Tax (Due Annually for Males over 20 years old) – Half Shekel
Roman Tax	Census Tax (due Annually) – This was the tax in Matthew 22 and the tax for Joseph & Mary at the nativity
Herodian Tax	Land Tax Import/Export Tax Crop Tax Income Tax (1% Annual) Road Use tax Transportation Tax City Entrance Tax Salt Tax Sales Tax Emergency Tax (if taxes couldn't cover expenses)

The people were heavily taxed, so these individuals wanted to pull Jesus into the political discussion concerning taxes. The political topic of taxes was rife with emotion and bias.

“Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

It was the Jewish custom to pray three times each day; at the time of the morning sacrifice (9:00am), at noon, and at the evening sacrifice (3:00pm).

- The prayer of the self-righteous Pharisee exalted himself instead of God.
- The tax collector fell to his knees while the Pharisee had stood by himself above everyone else.



“This man went down to his house justified...”

The only occasion in the gospels that the word “justified” is used in the Pauline sense.

(Romans 4-5)

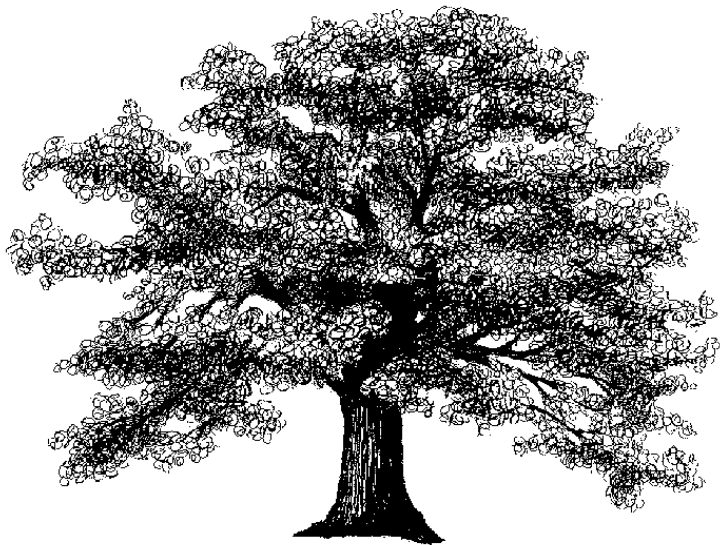
A legal term used in the Bible to describe the act of God in which He declares that a person is not guilty.

The Salvation of Zacchaeus the Publican (Luke 19:1-10)

- The Greek word for “ruler” (archón ἄρχων) means “chief,” so Zacchaeus was the “chief tax collector” (architelōnēs ἀρχιτελώνης) or the “ruling tax collector.”
- Being the chief tax collector could symbolize being the “chief transgressor” for Zacchaeus (“pure”).



The average height of a Jewish man at that time was 5' tall



The Sycamore tree is still seen in Israel in modern times with low lying limbs that can easily be climbed while holding weight.

Exfoliating Bark that Flakes Off

The trunk of every tree has a covering of bark that must allow for the growth of the tree; the Sycamore demonstrates this transition of exfoliation more clearly than any other tree.

The Sycamore bark is unable to expand to enable the underlying growth, so the rigid bark must completely deteriorate and crumble leaving limbs that appear whitewashed.

Zacchaeus would not be able to mildly alter his internal change, but instead radically drop his hardness revealing a tender white (pure) growth.

This is the only occurrence in Scripture where Jesus invited Himself over to eat at someone's house.

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.” (Revelation 3:20)

The Parable of Investing Talents (Luke 19:11-27)

Disclaimer: This parable may have been based on an actual historical event.

The Roman Empire sovereignly governed, and no one could rule provincially (become a provincial ruler) without the authorization of the Roman Government.

After the death of Herod, the Great, the Palestine area was divided into four regions:

1. Herod Archelaus ruled Judea
2. Herod Philip ruled Ituraea
3. Lysanias ruled Abilene
4. Herod Antipas ruled Galilee.

The term “Tetrarch” is defined as having a “fourth” of the governmental authority (“ruler of a quarter”).

- It was required that each of the four rulers travel to Rome to receive the authority to reign.
- When Herod Archelaus traveled to receive authority in Rome, the people of Judea sent a delegation of 50 men to protest the rule of Herod Archelaus before Caesar Augustus.
- Although Caesar Augustus allowed Herod Archelaus to rule over Judea, Caesar did not designate Herod Archelaus as “king.”

Same Spirit Results in Witness

*“Since we have **the same spirit of faith** according to what has been written, ‘**I believed, and so I spoke,**’ we also believe, and so we also speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that **as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.**”*

2 Corinthians 4:13-14

Witness Results in Thanksgiving

The Greek coin mina (maneh) is equivalent to a hundred drachma (which is similar in value to a denarius – a day’s wage). The amount was salary for approximately 100 days or a third of a year.

Growth of the Followers of Jesus	
12 Apostles	Mt 10:2-4; Mk 3:16-19, Lk 6, Acts 1
70 Witnesses	Luke 10:1-12
120 Disciples	Acts 1:15
3000 Conversions	Acts 2:41
Church Grew Daily	Acts 16:5

Only the first servant received the praise
“well done, good servant.”

Matthew 25:23

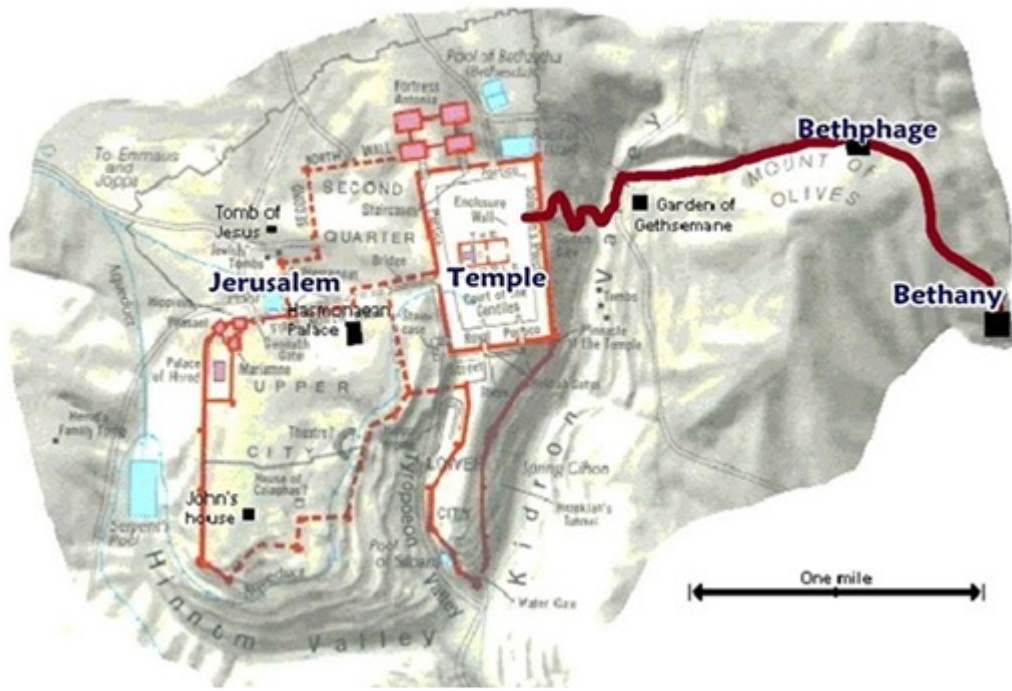
*“His master said to him, ‘**Well done, good and faithful servant.** You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’”*

The Prophecy of Jerusalem's Fall (Luke 19:41-44)

Gospel Chapters Dedicated to God Incarnate

4 Chapters		First 30 Years of the Life of Jesus	
85 Chapters Last 3½ years of the Life of Jesus	56 Chapters		The 3 ½ year ministry of Jesus
	29 Chapters Final Week	16 Chapters	Cover Final Week of Jesus Ministry
		13 Chapters	Final 24 Hours of Jesus Life

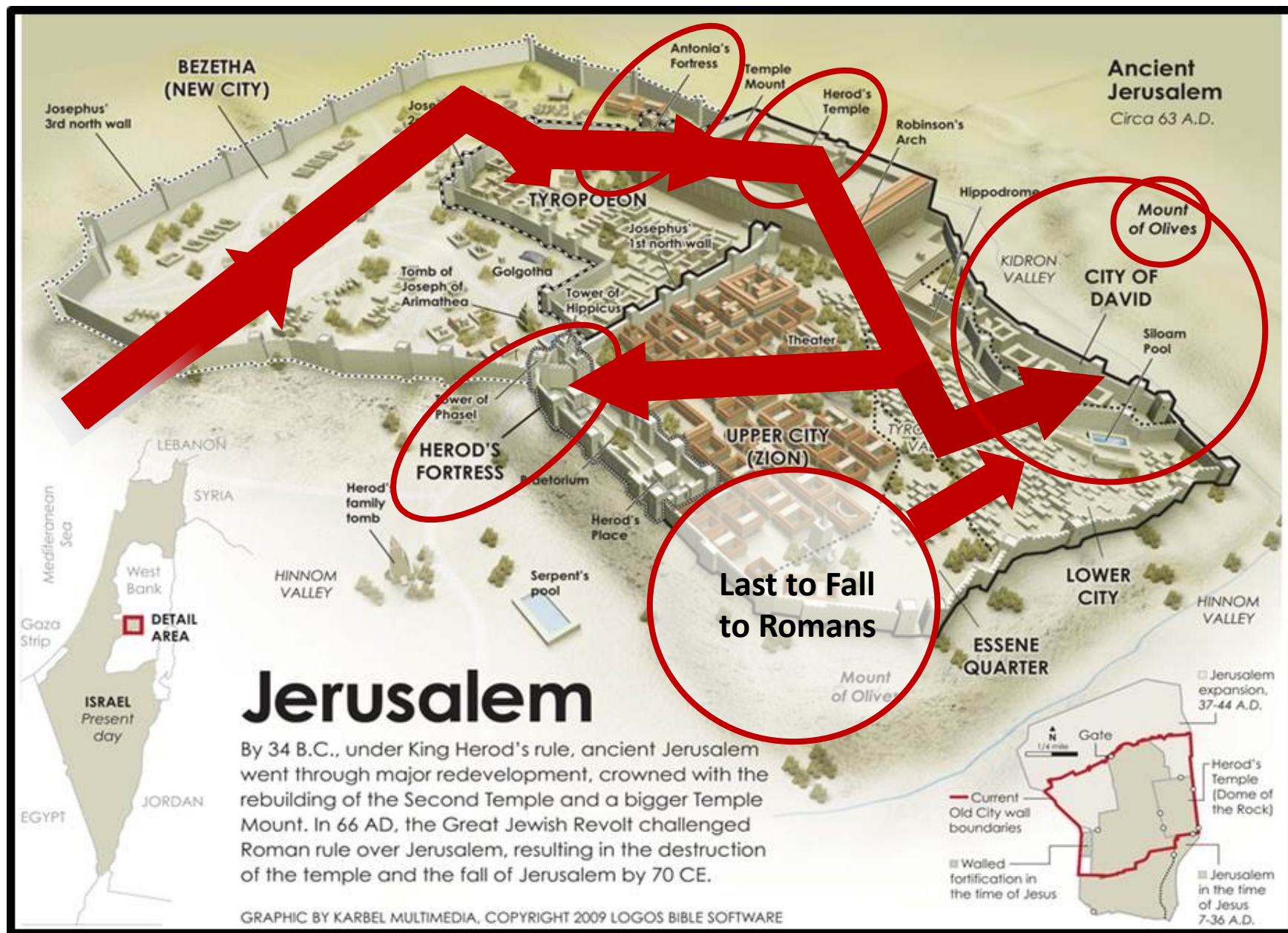
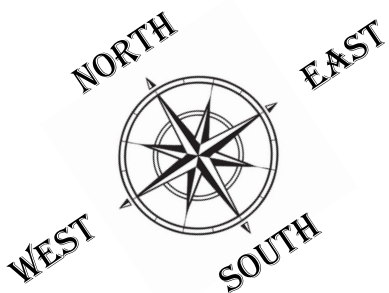
- 15% of the Gospel chapters cover the last 24 hours of Jesus' life on earth.
- 33% of the Gospel chapters cover the last week of Jesus' ministry.



*“And when he drew near and saw the city, **he wept over it**, saying,
 “Would that you, even you, had known on this day **the things that make for peace!** But now they are hidden from your eyes.
 For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up a
 barricade around you and surround you and hem you in
 on every side and tear you down to the ground,
 you and your children within you.
 And they will not leave one stone upon another in you,
 because you did not know the time of your visitation.”*

The Prophecy of Jerusalem's Fall (Luke 19:41-44)

- The Jerusalem Campaign began in the Spring of 70AD and lasted for 5 months (April – September)
- Troops are estimated to number between 50k-60k soldiers
- The invading Roman Forces came from Alexandria Egypt and were led by the Roman General Titus
- The Romans breached the wall from the northwest,
- Jews dug tunnels under Antonia's Fortress to attack the Roman siege ramps.
- The Romans failed to dislodge Antonia's Fortress, but during the night the ground imploded and the foundation of the Fortress collapsed



The Destruction of the Temple (Luke 19:41-44)

*“And when he drew near and saw the city,
he wept over it, saying, “Would that you, even you, had
known on this day **the things that make for peace!**
But now they are hidden from your eyes.
For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will
set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem
you in on every side and tear you down to the ground,
you and your children within you.
And they will not leave one stone upon another in you,
because you did not know the time of your visitation.”*

Jesus prophesied that each stone would be “thrown down.” The Greek word is “kataluo” meaning “dismantled.”

The Jewish nation had begun putting their faith in the Temple instead of God. The Jews believed that the existence of the Temple translated into God’s favor.

Herod’s Temple only stood complete for 6 years before it was demolished by the Romans in 70 AD.

- As an Idumean, Herod constructed the Temple to placate the conservative Jews.
- It is estimated that over 80,000 laborers were employed on the construction of the Temple.
- The Temple was positioned on an area of 36 acres which was 20% (1/5) the land mass of Jerusalem at that time.
- The Temple was constructed of either polished limestone or a native stone (mezzah). This was a bright white structure that was trimmed in gold.
- Josephus documented that the stones were 25 cubits x 8 cubits x 12 cubits. An average cubit was 18 inches, so the stones were 37½ feet x 12 feet x 18 feet.
- Many of the individual stones exceeded several hundred tons. They were so heavy and level that no binding material (mortar) was necessary.
- Even the disciples of Jesus were visually impressed with the immensity of the stones of the Temple
- This (Herod’s) Temple structure was in the midst of being built as the construction lasted from 20BC until 64AD.

The Money Changers of the Temple (Luke 19:45-48)

- Just as Jesus had “cast out” the unclean spirits, He now “cast out” the religious leaders because they profited by the sale of overpriced sacrifices to the impoverished Jews.
- Scripture records a separate account of Jesus performing the same cleansing of the Temple earlier in His ministry (John 2:15).



Money Changers

- The money changers provided the service of currency exchange for travelers and foreigners at a profit.
- The money changers would also sell sacrificial animals to those who traveled distances.
- Priests would find blemishes from the local sacrifices, so that even the local Jews were forced to buy sacrifices at the Temple for much more money.
- Those in poverty could not afford a sheep, so the Lord allowed dove sacrifices for the impoverished. The money changers were even taking advantage of society’s poorest.
- The money changers were set up in the Court of the Gentiles which was the location of outreach to foreigners wanting to know God.

Missionary To Monetary

Prayer shows the relationship with the Lord, His provision and a focus on the divine.

Commerce shows the relationship with the world and self-effort.

The religious leaders had turned the House of Prayer (Isaiah 56:7) into a Den of Thieves (Jeremiah 7:11).

Isaiah 56 leads into a new section of the Book of Isaiah that reveals a new Jerusalem.

Jeremiah 7 is called “Jeremiah’s Temple Sermon” where he preached at the gate of the Temple in the same way as Jesus seven centuries later.

The Authority of Jesus (Luke 20:1-8)

- It was understood that authority is bestowed by another authority, and the religious organization had not condoned nor promoted the teaching of Jesus.
- Jesus had accused the religious leaders of price gouging and exploiting the needs of the congregation (Luke 19:46).
- This delegation of the Sanhedrin questioned the credentials of Jesus. They had attributed His miracles to Beelzebub. (Matthew 12:22-32)
- In order to become a rabbi in modern times, an individual must pass a test in certain difficult areas of Jewish law; the individual will then receive a Semicha (Rabbinical ordination) from the testing rabbi.



Jesus was probably teaching in the covered (porches) portico's of Solomon that surrounded the Gentile courtyard.

The Chief Priests & Elders did not want Jesus to undermine their social structure from the pulpit (Amos 7:10-15).

Truth & Consequences

- The religious leaders cared more about public opinion than God.
- The religious leaders actually considered the consequences instead of the truth.
- Believers as well as unbelievers should judge the truth on its own merit instead of determining truth by the consequences on a lifestyle.
- The religious leaders (like many today) align "truth" with their sinful lifestyles.

Vineyard Workers Mistreat & Kill Owner's Messengers (Luke 20:9-16)

*“For the vineyard of the LORD of armies is the house of Israel,
And the people of Judah are His delightful plant....”*

Isaiah 5:7

**The persecution of God's
messengers became
increasingly severe**

**Matthew 21:33 details the
preparation of the Vineyard
while Luke 20:9 does not.**

1. Planted vineyard
2. Built fence
3. Dug winepress
4. Built watchtower
5. Leased land
6. Went away
7. Sent Messengers/Son



The Rejected Cornerstone (Luke 20:17-19)

Old Testament Prophecies of the Cornerstone

“Behold, I am the one who has laid as a foundation in Zion, a stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation.” Isaiah 28:16

“From the Lord shall come the cornerstone.”
Zechariah 10:4

“As you looked, a stone was cut out by no human hand, and it struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces.” Daniel 2:34

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.” Psalms 118:22

Peter also referenced the same message in the same Temple courts

This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone
Acts 4:11

- The entire building is based on the stability and position of the cornerstone that bears the stress just as all of Christianity is based on the grounding of Jesus
- Attributes of a cornerstone include:
 - A cornerstone is placed at the corner of a building.
 - A cornerstone is traditionally the first stone laid for a structure
 - All other stones in the building are laid in reference to the cornerstone; it orients the building by its geographical location and direction.

How Do You Respond To Correction?

- When the scribes and chief priests heard the truth against them, they became vengeful instead of repentant.
- The religious leaders were offended at the truth of the parable instead of correcting their mindsets.
- The world is offended at the thought of being sinful without regarding the truth of the conviction.

The Progression to Calvary (Luke 23:26-31)

The Progression to Calvary	
Participants	Numeric Symbol
1. The lead man would carry a sign stating “King of the Jews”	Whole; Single Purpose
2. Soldiers pushing away the crowds	Witness
3. Jesus	Divine Revelation
4. Simon with the Cross	Creation
5. Soldiers	Judgment
6. Crowds (Antagonists, Followers/Women)	Insufficient

Simon of Cyrene

- The residence of Simon was Cyrene, Libya in northern Africa (Acts 11:20, 13:1); he was an African Jew who had possibly made a pilgrimage to celebrate the Passover in Jerusalem.
- Personal details of Simon are documented by the gospels which might show that he became a follower of Christ (Matthew 27:32; Mark 15:21; Luke 23:26).
- Simon was the father of Rufus (Mark 15:21) who may have been a member of the early church (Romans 16:13)
- Men from Cyrene would also be present at the upcoming Pentecost (Acts 2:10). There were synagogues in Jerusalem for men of Cyrene (Acts 6:9, 11:20, 13:1).



“For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?” Luke 23:31

“Do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.” Luke 23:28

- The Tribulation is called the “*Time of Jacob’s Trouble*” (Jeremiah 30:7); Israel will experience material loss.
- 66% (2/3) of the Jews will be killed (Zechariah 13:8) while 1/3 of the Jews will flee Israel where they will be preserved for 1,260 days in the wilderness (Revelation 12:6). (3½ years equate to 1,277 days)
- Zechariah’s prophecy of the end times:
 - The city of Jerusalem will be destroyed (Zechariah 14:1-2)
 - Before the Lord returns to the Mount of Olives (Zechariah 14:3-4)
 - To destroy the enemies of Israel (Zechariah 14:12-15)
 - As He restores Jerusalem (Zechariah 14:5-11)
 - Where the world will bring annual tribute through the millennial kingdom (Zechariah 14:16-21).