

1 When have you ever had an account of the things that have been hidden away in you, or they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and narrators of the fact? With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I am decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

In the course of planning this, I have chosen a friend named Zachariah, who belongs to the province of Bithynia, and who with Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. Both of these were righteous in the sight of God.

Zachariah asked the angel "How can it be that I am an old man and my wife will bring me a son?"

The angel said to him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day happens because you did not believe my words, which will come true at this appointed time."

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zachariah and wondering why he stayed so long in the temple. When he came out, he could not speak to them. They realized he had seen a vision in the temple, so he kept making signs to them but remained unable to speak.

When his time of service was completed, he returned home. After this, his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and for five months remained in seclusion. The Lord has done this for you, as he said, "If these can be shown his love and faith every my message among the people."

to you, and must still remain because of its birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is now to be called a son of the Holy Spirit even before he is born. You will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord since God has will to go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of the Holy Spirit, the source of the promise to your children and the abundance in the vision of the righteous. I must finally tell a people prepared for the Lord."

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summarized, for whoever from God will see this.

"I am the Lord's servant. My message, 'May you want to be fulfilled.' Then the angel left her."

"At that time Mary got up and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where the priestly Elizabeth's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? How is this possible for me since I have not been with a man? How is it that you have found yourself here?'"

When it was time for Elizabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a son. Her neighbor and relatives heard that the Lord had done for her and they shared her joy.

On the eighth day they come to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him after his father Zachariah, but his mother insisted and said, "No! He is to be called John."

They said to her, "There is no one among your relatives who has that name."

Then they made signs to his father to find out what he would like to name the child. He asked for a writing tablet, and to everyone's amazement he wrote, "His name is John." Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue set free, and he began to speak, praising God. All the neighbors were filled with awe, and throughout the hill country of Judea people were talking about all these things. Everyone who heard this wondered what it was, saying, "What has happened to this child to bring her to be?" For the Lord's hand was with him.

His father Zachariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied:

"Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David (as he said through his holy prophets in long ages):

oration to generation.

He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered down who are proud in their inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. He has helped the upright and has been a refuge for the oppressed and the descendants of Israel, just as he promised through his prophets.

Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

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And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

And when the time for his purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Your male who first opens the womb shall be called both to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came on the Spirit into the temple and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, so as to do him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said:

"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for praise among all nations. And the Holy Spirit said to him: 'You are called Jesus, for you are saved through him.'"

And when they had performed all these things according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, and the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year of the Feast of the Passover. And

THAT YOU MAY HAVE CERTAINITY

Luke

5:17-26

Faith and Forgiveness

Our Three Questions

1. What does it say?

- Authorial intent to intended audience

2. What does it mean?

- Timeless theological truth

3. How does it apply?

- Landing it in our lives

Luke 5:17-26

17 On one of those days, as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with him to heal.

Luke 5:17-26

¹⁸ And behold, some men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, ¹⁹ but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd,

Luke 5:17-26

they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus. ²⁰ And when he saw their faith, he said, “Man, your sins are forgiven you.” ²¹ And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying,

Luke 5:17-26

“Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?” ²² When Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answered them, **“Why do you question in your hearts? ²³ Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Rise and walk’?**

Luke 5:17-26

24 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he said to the man who was paralyzed—“I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home.” 25 And immediately he rose up before them

Luke 5:17-26

and picked up what he had been lying on and went home, glorifying God.

²⁶ And amazement seized them all, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, “We have seen extraordinary things today.”

Luke at 30,000 feet

Jesus - authority

Jesus - identity

Jesus – Kingdom of God

Jesus - conflict with religious rulers

Luke at 30,000 feet

Jesus - authority

- 4:31-37 – Over demons
- 4:38-41 – Over sickness
- 4:31 & 42-44 – To teach
- 5:1-11 – Over the fish of the sea
- 5:12-15 – To make clean
- 5:17-26 – To forgive sins

Luke at 30,000 feet

Jesus - identity

4:22 – “Is not this Joseph’s son?”

4:36 – “What word is this” - commands spirits

4:40 – “You are the Son of God” - Demons

5:5-7 – Peter goes from “Master” to “Lord”

5:21 – “Who is this ...” – Jewish leaders

Luke at 30,000 feet

Jesus – Kingdom of God

4:42-44 – Sent to proclaim it

4:31-37 – No demonic oppression

4:38-41 – No sickness

5:1-11 – Creation in submission

5:12-16 – The unclean made clean

5:17-26 – Citizen's sins forgiven

Luke at 30,000 feet

Jesus - conflict with religious rulers

5:17-26 – Forgiving sins

5:27-32 – Communing with sinners

5:33-39 – Does not observe tradition

6:1-5 – Picking grain on Sabbath

6:6-11 – Healing on the Sabbath

Luke at 30,000 feet

Jesus - authority

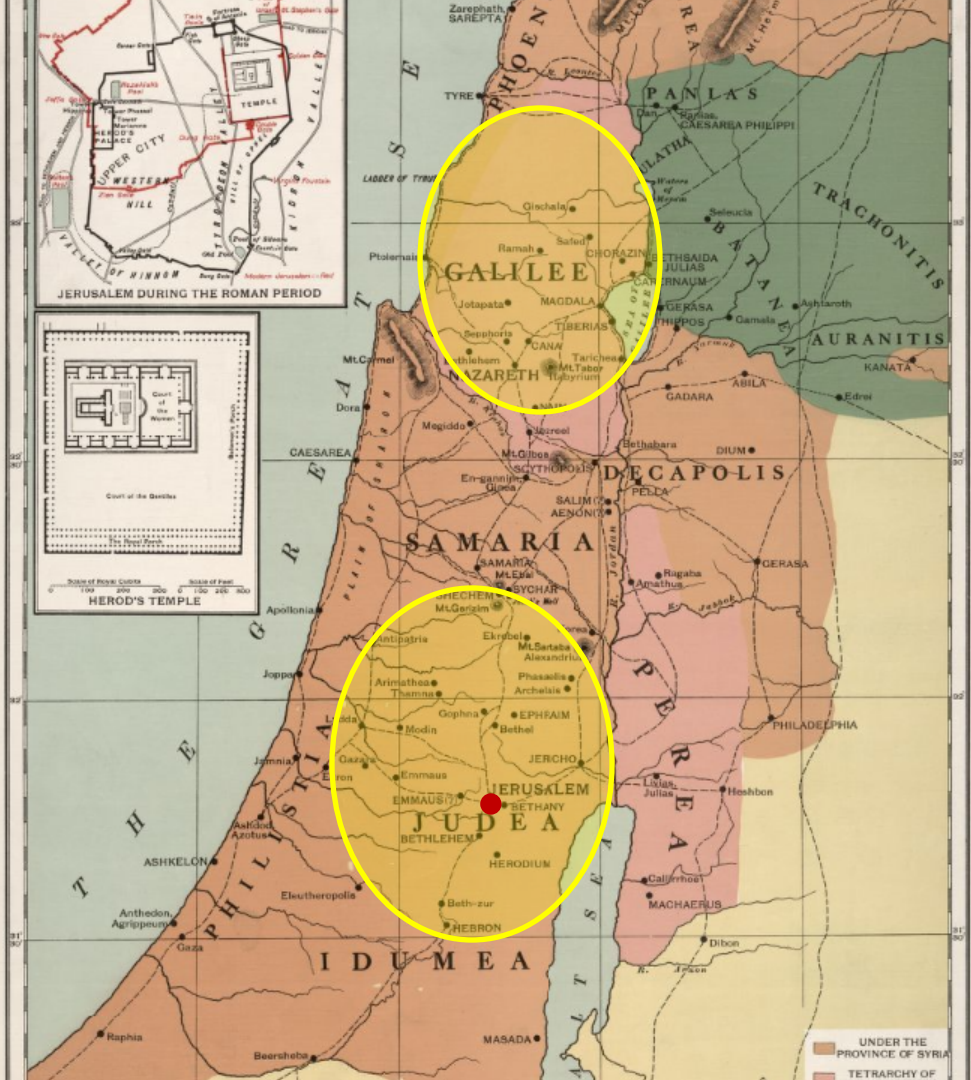
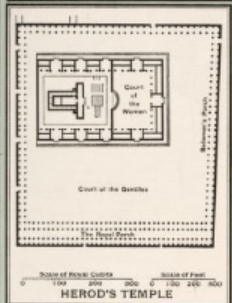
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UNDER THE PROVINCE OF SYRIA
TETRARCHY OF

Luke 5:18-19

¹⁸ And behold, some men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, ¹⁹ but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus.

Luke 5:18-19

The friends:

- **They are friends**
- **They recognize his need**
- **Jesus is the only viable solution**
- **Great lengths to get the two together**

Luke 5:18-19

The paralyzed man:

- Lives in a culture that equates disability with sin. John 5:1-14, 9:2 & 34, Luke 13:1-5
- *He knows his sin
- Going to see a healer who calls out sin
Mark 1:14-15 & Matthew 4:17

Luke 5:20

20 And when he saw their faith, he said, "Man, your sins are forgiven you."

Jesus sees their faith. It is observable

He forgives the sins of the paralytic

Luke 5:21

²¹ And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, “Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

Luke 5:21

Only God can forgive sins.

Psalm 51:4 – Sin is firstly against God

Genesis 2:16-17 & Romans 6:23 – Sin & death

Leviticus 17:10-12 – atonement by blood

Hebrews 9:22 – No forgiveness w/out blood

Luke 5:21

How can Jesus forgive?

Authority granted by the Father

John 5:19-29, Matthew 28:18

Authority purchased in blood

Romans 3:23-26

Luke 5:22-27

22 When Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answered them, “Why do you question in your hearts? **23** Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Rise and walk’?”

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Luke 5:22-27

The rhetorical question

Authority to heal → authority to forgive

Jesus can forgive

All the people were filled with awe

contrast with 6:11

What do we learn & do

- Faith can be seen
- Jesus can and does forgive sins

What do we learn & do

Think rightly about your chief problem

Seek Jesus for forgiveness

What do we learn & do

1. Think rightly about people's chief problem
2. Think rightly about Jesus as the solution
3. Love people



Be the
good
friend

Questions

Did anything jump out at you from the text or the message?

When you think through the story of our text, who do you feel like you can identify with the most? Why is that?

The friends were willing to destroy someone's personal property to get their friend to Jesus. Do you feel like they went too far? Why or why not?

Are there people in your life that you believe don't really know Jesus? If you look at your relationship with them, do you feel like you are doing what you ought to before the Lord in the effort of getting them in front of Jesus.

When you think about the Pharisees and the teachers of the law in the text; what do you think their primary problem was?