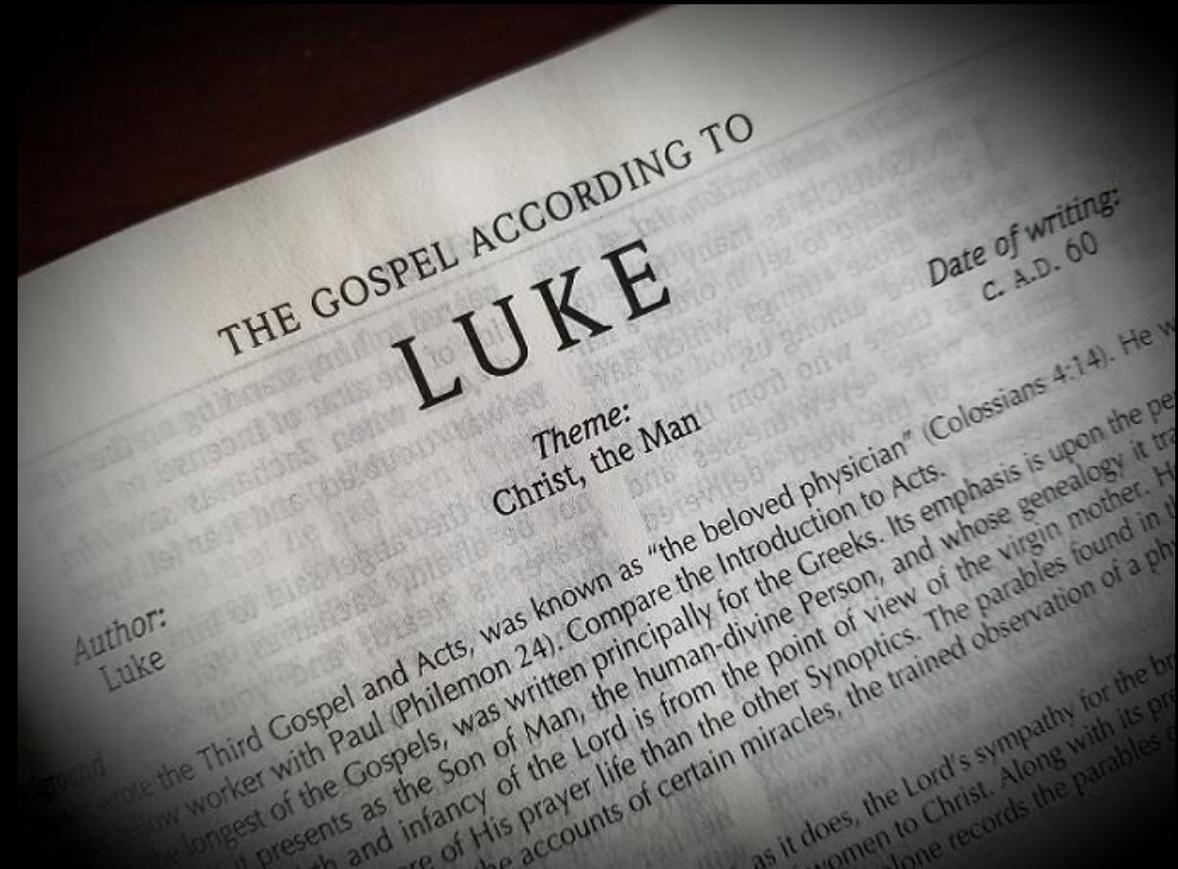


Verse by Verse

Luke 4



Luke 4 Introduction

Luke 4 Introduction

- In **Chapter 3**, we saw Jesus being baptized by John.
- By submitting to baptism like so many others, he was fully identifying with sinful humanity.
- In this chapter, Jesus begins his public ministry.
- Before that, however, he is led by the Spirit into the wilderness for a spiritual boot camp experience.
- As we think through this part of God's plan, we can learn from the way Christ deals with the devil and temptation.

Luke 4 Key Verses

Luke 4 Key Verses

- Luke 4:20-21 (ESV)

²⁰ And [Jesus] rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

Luke 4 Outline

Luke 4 Outline

1. The Devil Tempts Jesus 4:1-13
2. Jesus Begins His Ministry 4:14-15
3. Nazareth Rejects Jesus 4:16-30
4. Jesus Casts Out a Demon 4:31-37
5. Jesus Heals in Capernaum 4:38-41
6. Jesus Continues Preaching 4:42-44

1. The Devil Tempts Jesus 4:1-13

1. The Devil Tempts Jesus 4:1-13

- 4:1 Jesus was full of the Holy Spirit and led by the Spirit into this confrontation with the devil.
- God often puts us through a spiritual boot camp early in our Christian life – and more times of training later on.
- The devil wants to destroy us, but God wants to give us victory over temptation to make us spiritually stronger.

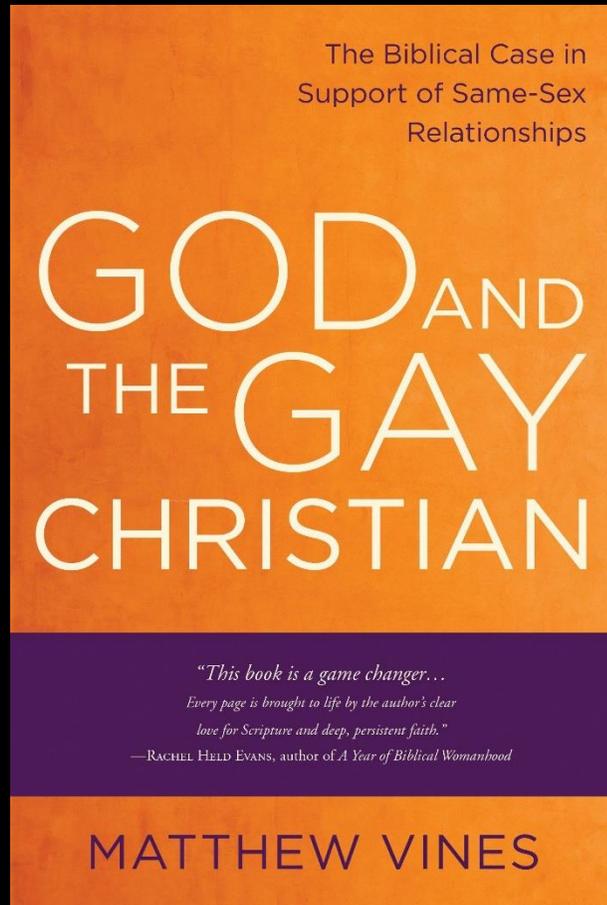
1. The Devil Tempts Jesus 4:1-13

- Adam had all that he needed in paradise and yet sinned when temptation came.
- Jesus was physically weak, fasting in the wilderness and resisted the devil time after time.
- The temptations seem related to Jesus using his supernatural abilities to serve his own personal needs or some selfish end.
- Christ resisted using only quotations from the Scriptures, in a Spirit-led, Spirit-empowered way.

1. The Devil Tempts Jesus 4:1-13

- The devil knows how to use Scripture selectively to suit his evil intentions.
- His servants can do the same.
- Like their master, false teachers often use Scripture in a biased way to lure people into error, confusion and sin.

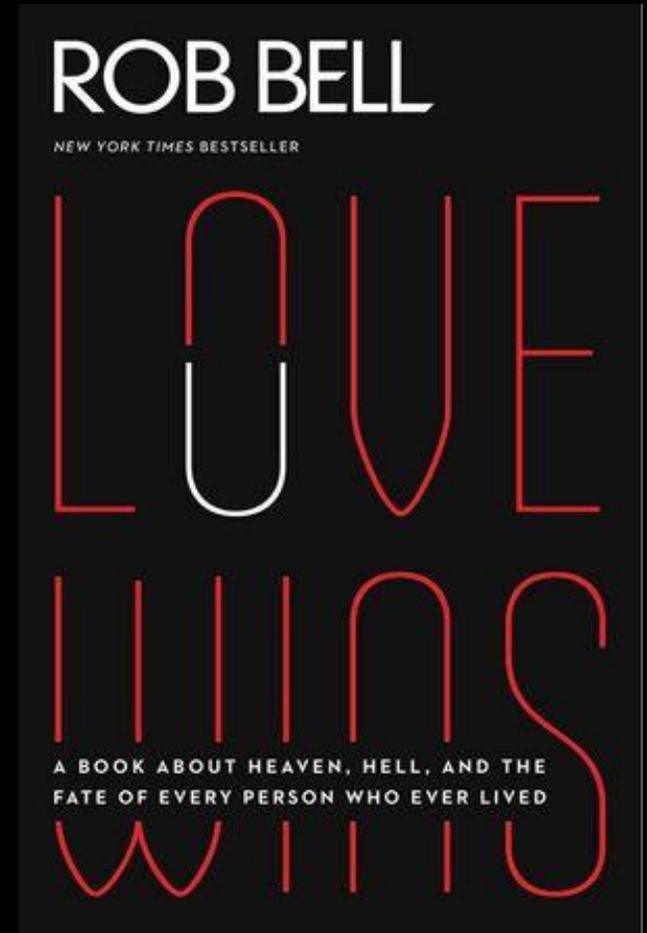
1. The Devil Tempts Jesus 4:1-13



- *God and the Gay Christian* (2014) is one of a multitude of recent attempts to defend our culture's turn away from the biblical vision of sex and marriage.
- It does so, in part, by claiming this cultural shift is actually more biblical.
- Except that it's not.

1. The Devil Tempts Jesus 4:1-13

- The 2012 bestseller *Love Wins* goes farther yet.
- It calls into question whether anyone will truly be lost, suggesting that those who reject Christ now will be drawn to him after they die.
- In other words, it completely undermines the gospel.



2. Jesus Begins His Ministry 4:14-15

2. Jesus Begins His Ministry 4:14-15

- It was only after this spiritual boot camp that Jesus dove into his public ministry.
- In the power of the Holy Spirit he made an immediate positive impression.

3. Nazareth Rejects Jesus 4:16-30

3. Nazareth Rejects Jesus 4:16-30

- 4:16 Highlight the words, “as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day.”
- Jesus made it a point to attend weekly synagogue services.
- The idea of being “a Christian but not a churchgoer” is a common lie the enemy uses in our day.
- Others fall into the opposite trap, in which going to church on Sunday seems to be all there is to their Christian life.

3. Nazareth Rejects Jesus 4:16-30

- 4:18-19 Jesus read from **Isaiah 61**.
- Luke seems to get this from the Greek translation known as the **Septuagint** or **LXX**.
- Conspicuously, Jesus skips the phrase, “**and the day of vengeance of our God**” in the original.
- This comes later, while Old Testament prophecy tends to blend the two comings of Christ into one.

3. Nazareth Rejects Jesus 4:16-30

- 4:22 And they said, “Is not this Joseph's son?”
- In other words, “Who does he think he is?” They cannot stand the fact that Jesus might actually be the Messiah.
- The real tragedy is the fact that they let their familiarity with Jesus keep them from taking part in God’s plan.
- We too can see Jesus as such a familiar figure that we never get to really know him as Savior and Lord.

4. Jesus Casts Out a Demon 4:31-37

4. Jesus Casts Out a Demon

4:31-37

Even when the demons spoke the truth ... the Lord himself silenced them and forbade them to speak. He did this to keep them from sowing their own wickedness in the midst of the truth. He also wished us to get used to never listening to them even though they seem to speak the truth. ¹



Athanasius of Alexandria
296-373

4. Jesus Casts Out a Demon 4:31-37

- In Nazareth, we already saw how the devil can blind people to the truth of the Scriptures and keep them from Jesus.
- In Capernaum it takes a new turn, with a demonized man attending Sabbath services in the synagogue.
- Whether in the wilderness against the devil, spiritual blindness in Nazareth or here, Jesus is in complete control.

5. Jesus Heals in Capernaum 4:38-41

5. Jesus Heals in Capernaum 4:38-41

- Jesus now heals a number of people, beginning with Simon Peter's mother-in-law.
- Sometimes sickness is just sickness, but sometimes there is a spiritual component, as with the demons mentioned here.
- It is not always easy for us to tell the difference.
- That is why it is always good to pray for the sick while still trusting doctors and medicine at the same time.

6. Jesus Continues Preaching 4:42-44

6. Jesus Continues Preaching 4:42-44

- It's interesting that Jesus knew how to set priorities.
- No doubt he could have healed people 24/7.
- Yet, he starts the day, getting off alone somewhere (v.42).
- He then leaves Capernaum, taking a little ministry tour of other synagogues in other towns.

6. Jesus Continues Preaching 4:42-44

- Sometimes it is hard to know when an urgent need is related to our calling, or when it is just a need.
- We can easily be motivated by guilt or by a sort of twisted desire to see ourselves as a hero.
- Jesus had this figured out; we often don't.

Luke 4 What We Just Read

Luke 4 What We Just Read

1. The Devil Tempts Jesus 4:1-13
2. Jesus Begins His Ministry 4:14-15
3. Jesus Is Rejected at Home 4:16-30
4. Jesus Casts Out a Demon 4:31-37
5. Jesus Heals in Capernaum 4:38-41
6. Jesus Continues Preaching 4:42-44

Luke 4 Key Verses

Luke 4 Key Verses

- Luke 4:20-21 (ESV)

²⁰ And [Jesus] rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

Luke 4 Key Points

Luke 4 Key Points

1. Jesus defeated the devil in the wilderness by operating in the Spirit and using the Word of God.

Luke 4 Key Points

1. Jesus defeated the devil in the wilderness by operating in the Spirit and using the Word of God.
2. The devil can also use Scripture in false or lying ways, so he can easily deceive us if we do not know the Bible well.

Luke 4 Key Points

1. Jesus defeated the devil in the wilderness by operating in the Spirit and using the Word of God.
2. The devil can also use Scripture in false or lying ways, so he can easily deceive us if we do not know the Bible well.
3. Like the people of Nazareth, we can feel we are so familiar with Jesus that we never get to know him personally.

Luke 4 Key Points

1. Jesus defeated the devil in the wilderness by operating in the Spirit and using the Word of God.
2. The devil can also use Scripture in false or lying ways, so he can easily deceive us if we do not know the Bible well.
3. Like the people of Nazareth, we can feel we are so familiar with Jesus that we never get to know him personally.
4. Sickness can be spiritual. It is good to pray for the sick while still trusting doctors and medicine at the same time.

Luke 4 Key Points

1. Jesus defeated the devil in the wilderness by operating in the Spirit and using the Word of God.
2. The devil can also use Scripture in false or lying ways, so he can easily deceive us if we do not know the Bible well.
3. Like the people of Nazareth, we can feel we are so familiar with Jesus that we never get to know him personally.
4. Sickness can be spiritual. It is good to pray for the sick while still trusting doctors and medicine at the same time.
5. Even Jesus had priorities and didn't respond to every need.

Luke His Purpose in Writing

Luke His Purpose in Writing

Luke 1:3-4 (ESV)

³ It seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴ that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

Luke 4 A Prayer

Luke 4 A Prayer

- Father in Heaven,
- Thank you for all that we can learn from Jesus and the way he carried out his ministry.
- Thank you that he showed us how to defeat the devil by only being filled with the Spirit and filled with your Word.
- Please fill us with your Spirit this day.
- Help us further to be students of the Scriptures.

Luke 4 A Prayer

- We want to be able to use the Bible rightly whenever we face the many temptations that we do.
- Help us also to have discernment to know the difference between the truth, which comes from you, and the lies that our enemy so craftily tells us.
- Teach us to pray about every need, not least the many sicknesses that we face in this life.

Luke 4 A Prayer

- And finally, help us to seek you first, so that we might constantly grow in our faith, and help us to set our priorities in accordance with your will.
- In Christ,
- Amen.

Luke 4 References

1. Arthur A. Just Jr., *Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2003, 85.