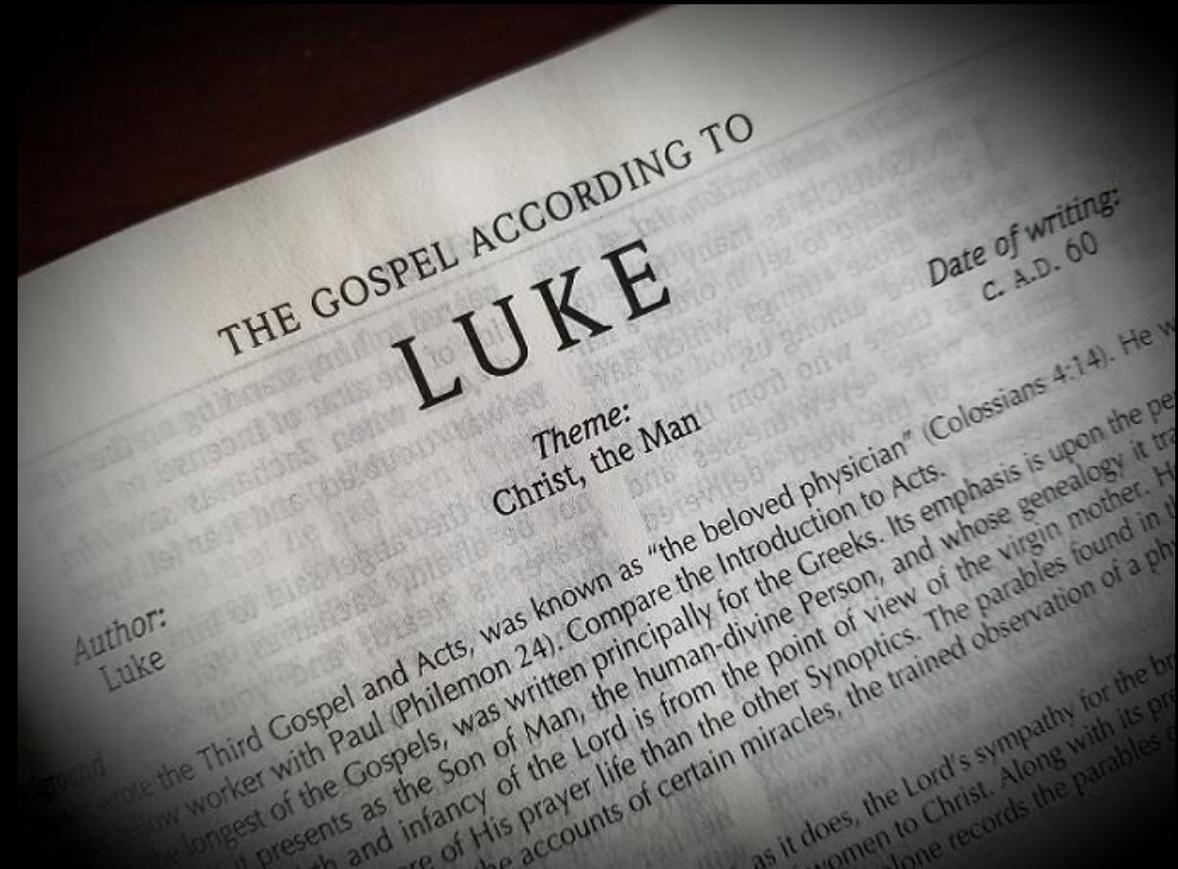


Verse by Verse

Luke 6



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.

Previously in Luke

Previously in Luke

- Like **Matthew**, the **Gospel of Luke** gives us a birth story and genealogy of Jesus, yet it includes some different details.
- Jesus began his public ministry being baptized by John and then enduring a time of testing in the wilderness.
- When he returned to Nazareth, he was rejected in the synagogue – and they even tried to kill him.
- Still, his ministry continued to grow.

Luke 6 Introduction

Luke 6 Introduction

- Here in **Luke 6**, we will begin with Sabbath controversies.
- Jesus will then select the apostles and continue his ministry of healing.
- Most of the chapter will be devoted to teaching similar to **Sermon on the Mount** in **Matthew**.
- If we had to name one chapter in the Bible that would best sum up the Christian faith and life, this might be it.

Luke 6 Key Verses

Luke 6 Key Verses

- Luke 6:37-39 (ESV)

³⁷ “Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

Luke 6 Outline

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1. Lord of the Sabbath 6:1-11
2. The Twelve Apostles 6:12-16
3. Healing a Multitude 6:17-19
4. Beatitudes and Woes 6:20-26
5. Love Your Enemies 6:27-36
6. Do Not Judge 6:37-42
7. Christ's True Followers 6:43-49

1. Lord of the Sabbath 6:1-11

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- In neither story did the scribes and Pharisees have a problem with **what** Jesus or the disciples did
- Both healing and eating grain in a field were perfectly OK.
- Their problem was only with **when** they did these things – **on the Sabbath**.
- These activities fit within their interpretations of work.

1. Lord of the Sabbath 6:1-11

- Jesus disagreed with this – and of course Jesus was right.
- Again, much like with forgiving someone's sin, Jesus puts himself above the Pharisees and scribes.
- By calling himself “Lord of the Sabbath,” he says that his idea of what violates the Sabbath is authoritative.
- For Christ's enemies, this was just too much.

2. The Twelve Apostles 6:12-16

2. The Twelve Apostles 6:12-16

- Jesus had and still has many **disciples**, but the twelve **apostles** hold a special place in the history of the church.
- Once in a while, in the New Testament, the word *apostle* seems to mean something like our word *missionary*.

2. The Twelve Apostles 6:12-16

- But usually, it is talking about the Twelve.
- Revelation 21:14 (ESV))

And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

3. Healing a Multitude 6:17-19

3. Healing a Multitude 6:17-19

- This is why we can't call this the Sermon on the Mount.
- **Matthew 5:1** (ESV)

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

- **Luke 6:17** (ESV)

And he came down with them [from the mountain where he called his disciples] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon.

4. Beatitudes and Woes 6:20-26

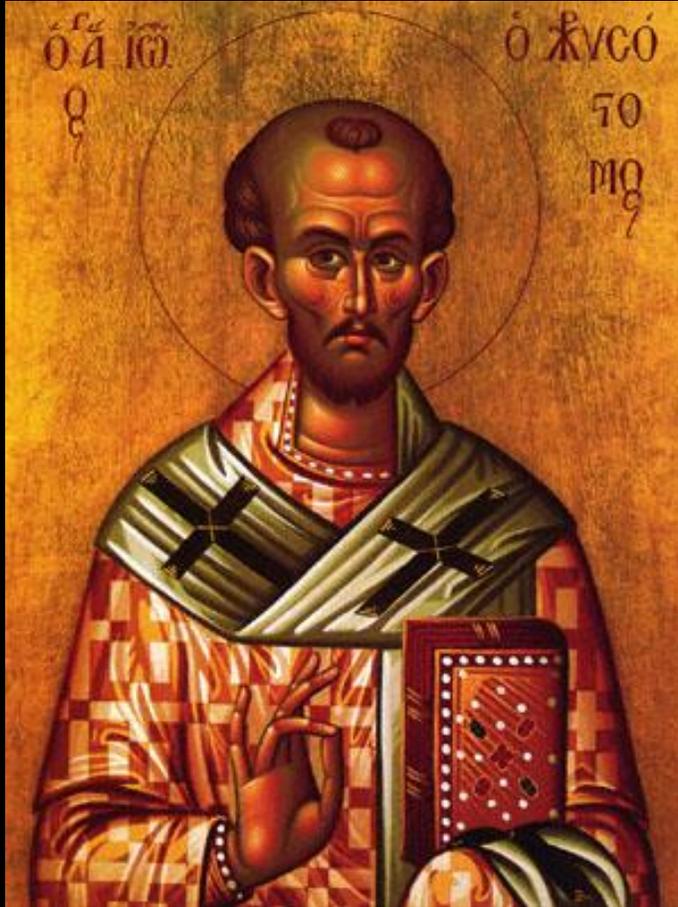
4. Beatitudes and Woes 6:20-26

- As in the Sermon on the Mount, the blessings are not things we would think of as happy experiences.
- Who wants to be poor or hungry?
- Who wants to weep or have people hate you, exclude you or revile you because of Jesus?
- In the context of faith in Christ, these things all become blessings.

4. Beatitudes and Woes 6:20-26

- The **Sermon on the Mount**, has no “woes” in it, but we do find a whole list of them in **Matthew 23**.
- Those are directed at the scribes and Pharisees.
- We might imagine that similar types of people are targeted here as well, and they may be out there in the crowd.
- Those who appear to be completely blessed now, but without Jesus, are like the false prophets of earlier times.

4. Beatitudes and Woes 6:20-26



Notice how by the word woe he revealed to us the extent of the punishment awaiting such people. The word woe, after all, in an exclamation of lament, so that it is as if he is lamenting their fate when he says, “Woe to you ...”¹

– John Chrysostom ~345 – 407

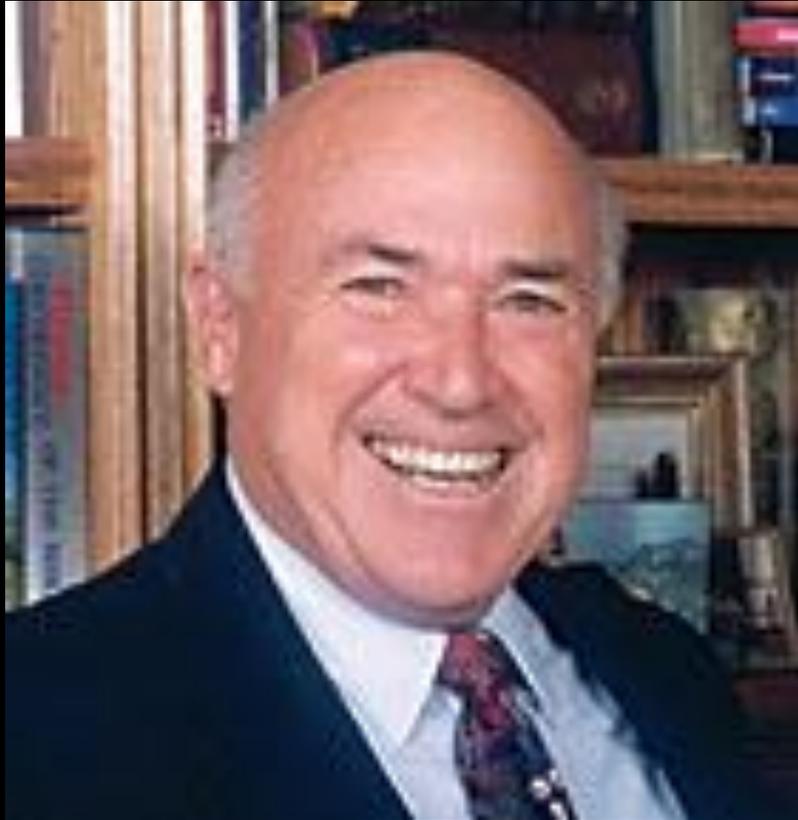
4. Beatitudes and Woes 6:20-26

- 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (ESV)

¹⁶ So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, ¹⁸ as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

5. Love Your Enemies 6:27-36

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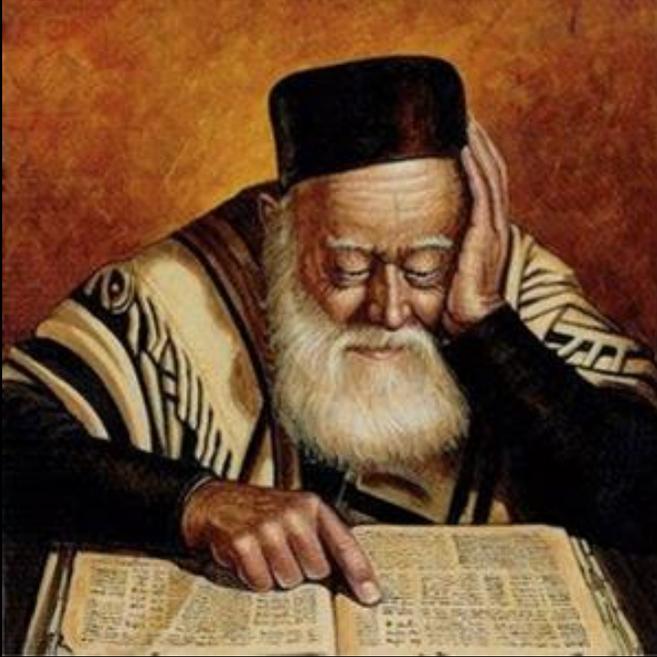
Pastor Chuck Smith
1927 – 2013

Loving your enemies is a difficult thing to do. You can try to appreciate them, forgive them, and be nice to them, but then they'll do something that reminds you why they are your enemy ... God blesses people who don't deserve it. His kindness is poured out on all ... God wants to do the supernatural within us, that we can show forth His love. ²

5. Love Your Enemies 6:27-36

- Loving our enemies fits into the message of v.31.
- There is a story in the Talmud, in Shabbat 31a, that tells of a Gentile that came to a rabbi and said,
“Convert me on condition that you teach me the entire Torah while I am standing on one foot.”
- That rabbi had no good answer.

5. Love Your Enemies 6:27-36



Hillel the Elder
110BC (Babylon) –
10AD (Jerusalem)

- The same Gentile came to Hillel the Elder, who was grandfather of Gamaliel, the teacher of Paul the Apostle.
- Hillel said,
*“That which is hateful to you do not do to another; that is the entire Torah, and the rest is its interpretation. Go study.”*³
- The man was converted.

5. Love Your Enemies 6:27-36

- It's a great story and it is probably true, but we might say it is incomplete, based on the teaching of Jesus.
- If we don't do that which is hateful to people and stop there, we might possibly not do much at all – even nothing!
- Jesus has us imagine what we might wish in 6:31.

And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

5. Love Your Enemies 6:27-36

- Christ practiced what he preached.
- When we get to **Luke 23:33-34a**, we find,
³³ And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”

5. Love Your Enemies 6:27-36

- Likewise Stephen, the very first Christian martyr.
- Acts 7:59-60 (ESV)

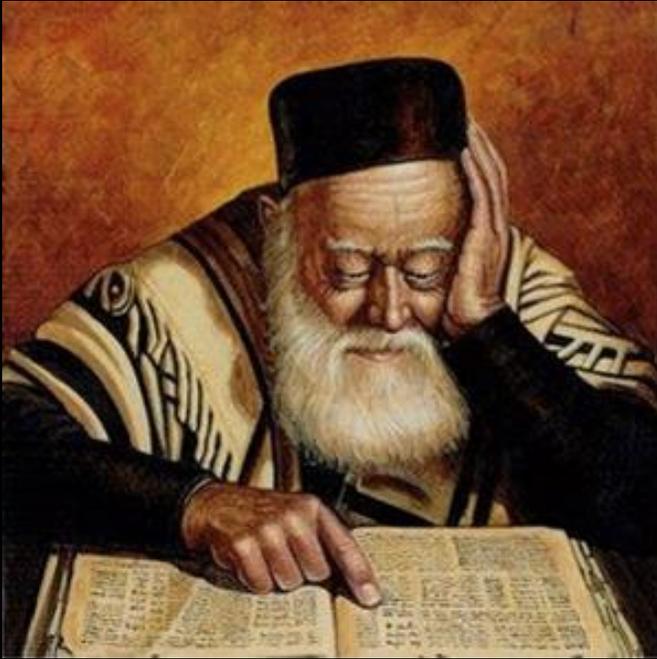
⁵⁹ And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰ And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

6. Do Not Judge 6:37-42

6. Do Not Judge 6:37-42

- Again Jesus goes beyond the law.
- The rabbi we quoted earlier, [Hillel the Elder](#), taught along the same lines, but again didn't go as far as Jesus.

6. Do Not Judge 6:37-42



Hillel the Elder
110BC (Babylon) –
10AD (Jerusalem)

- In Pirkei Avot 2:4, Hillel said,
“Do not judge your friend until you arrive at his place.”
- This is explained as,
If you see your friend being tested and failing, do not judge him guilty until you are put to the same test and succeed.

6. Do Not Judge 6:37-42

- Jesus would have us go farther by assuming that we are guilty of similar sins as everyone else.
- The Old Testament law gave us a picture of perfect justice.
- Christ has left us with an example of perfect grace.
- We need to always keep in mind that we are recipients of that grace.

6. Do Not Judge 6:37-42

- Two boundaries still need to be mentioned.
 1. Jesus is not undermining our whole legal system by saying we cannot tell the difference between right and wrong.
 2. Nor is he implying that the Bible does not help us tell the difference between good and evil.
- The final section of the chapter makes that very clear.

7. Christ's True Followers 6:43-49

7. Christ's True Followers 6:43-49

- Christ's half-brother **James** (Jacob), might have been thinking of this sermon when he said, in **James 1:22-25**,

²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. ²⁵ But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

Luke 6 What We Just Read

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Luke 6 Key Points

Luke 6 Key Points

1. Christ is Lord of the Sabbath; He is God.
2. The apostles have a special place in the church, therefore we find their teaching in the New Testament.
3. To be blessed as a Christian may not look like blessing at first; we have to take an eternal view of the outcome.
4. As believers we need to be Christlike, loving our enemies and remembering that God is the final judge.
5. We need to also do as Christ says, in order to build a secure spiritual foundation.

Luke 6 A Prayer

Luke 6 A Prayer

- Dear heavenly Father,
- Help us to truly follow Jesus by renouncing all condemning, unloving and unforgiving attitudes that might still linger in us, even if we have held them for years.
- And let us turn all of that into positive action, learning to love our enemies, doing good to those who treat us badly.
- Teach us to pray for all those who oppose us, so that they might come to know your mercy even as we have.

Luke 6 A Prayer

- Teach us to truly treat others just as we ourselves would wish to be treated.
- May our lives be full of good works, all consistent with the teaching of Christ, and may the foundation of our spiritual house be built on the rock, so that it will stand when the inevitable storms of life pound against it.
- In Christ,
- Amen.

Luke 6 References

1. Arthur A. Just Jr., *Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2003, 106.
2. Chuck Smith, *The Word for Today Bible*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2005, 1327.
3. See <https://www.sefaria.org/Shabbat.31a.7?lang=bi&with=all&lang2=en> (Accessed February 8, 2020)
4. See https://www.sefaria.org/Pirkei_Avot.2.4?ven=The_Mishna_with_Obadiah_Bartenura_by_Rabbi_Shraga_Silverstein&lang=bi&with=all&lang2=en (Accessed February 8, 2020)