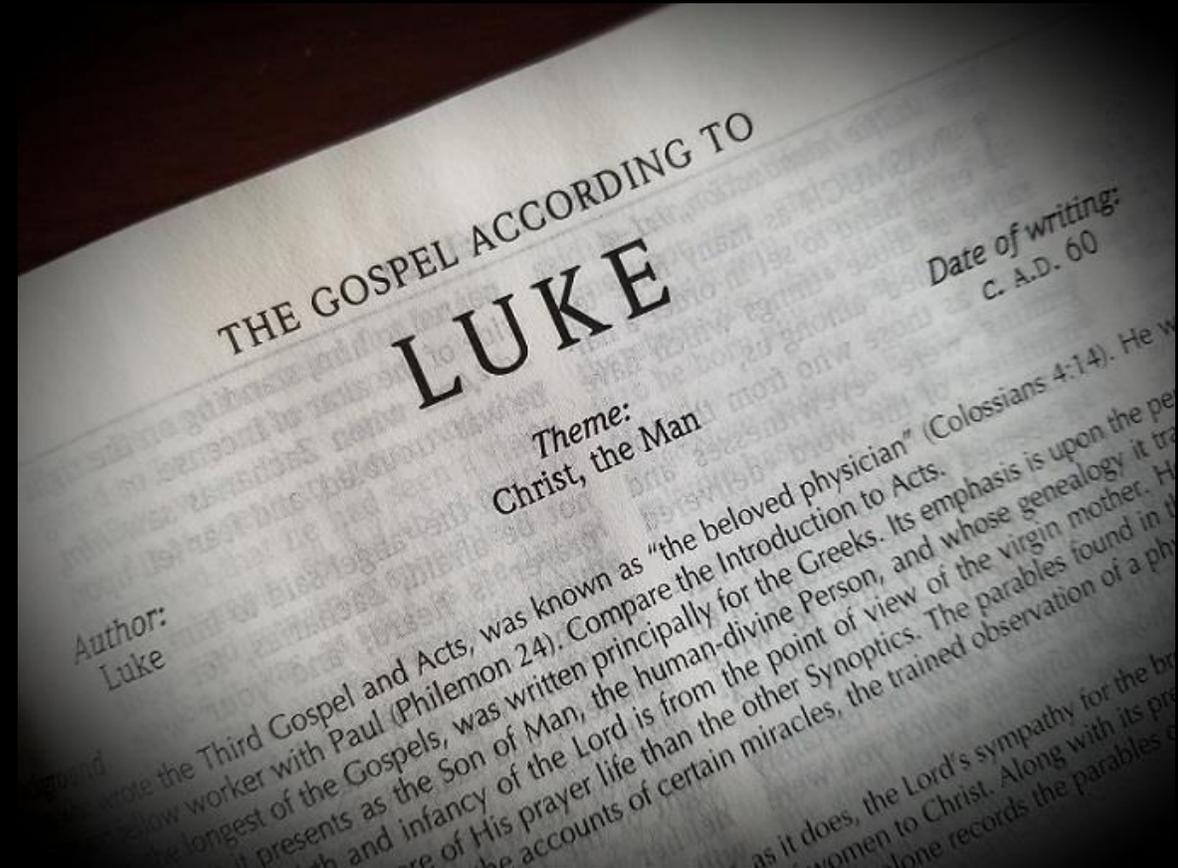


Verse by Verse

Luke 20



Previously in Luke

Previously in Luke

- Last week Jesus completed his ministry in Jericho, with some teaching about the lordship of Christ.
- He then made his way up to Jerusalem, where he drove out those who were making money.
- As he came toward the city, he was on a donkey in fulfillment of the prophecy of **Zechariah 9:9**.

Previously in Luke

- Zechariah 9:9 (ESV)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Behold, your king is coming to you;

righteous and having salvation is he,

humble and mounted on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Luke 20 Introduction

Luke 20 Introduction

- Now in Jerusalem, Christ's teaching will continue.
- This chapter is going to center on three words.
 1. **Authority** – which rightfully belongs to Jesus.
 2. **Theology** – which, it turns out, really matters a lot.
 3. **Hypocrisy** – and the need to avoid it.

Luke 20 Key Verse

Luke 20 Key Verse

- Luke 20:25 (ESV)

He said to them, “Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.”

Luke 20 Outline

Luke 20 Outline

1. Christ's Authority 20:1-8
2. The Wicked Tenants 20:9-18
3. Render to Caesar 20:19-26
4. On the Resurrection 20:27-40
5. David Calls Him Lord 20:41-44
6. Beware of the Scribes 20:45-47

1. Christ's Authority 20:1-8

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- Luke 19 ended with Christ cleansing the temple.
- The chief priests were in charge of the business of the temple, which Christ disrupted.
- Thus, the questions, “By what authority? ... Who gave you this authority?”

1. Christ's Authority 20:1-8

- If only they would have received John as a true prophet, he would have pointed them to Christ.
- By asserting his authority over the religious leaders, Jesus reveals himself as the unique **Son of God**.
- Jesus will now tell a story illustrating how this rivalry with the religious big shots is going to end.

2. The Wicked Tenants 20:9-18

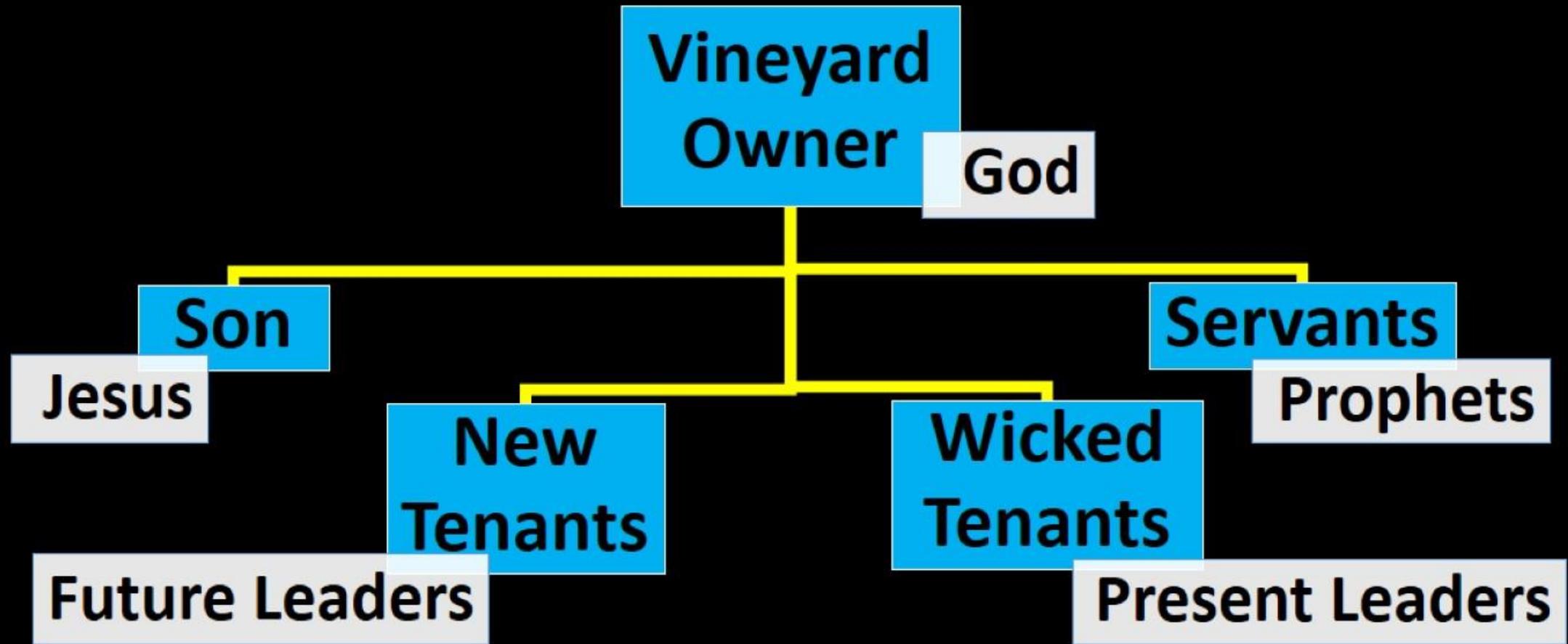
2. The Wicked Tenants 20:9-18

- According to **Isaiah 5:1-7** and **Psalms 80**, the vineyard symbolizes the nation of Israel.
- God will allow it to be destroyed and torn down, but he always holds on to his promise to restore.
- Unfaithful leaders will be replaced in the future with those who will be faithful to God.

2. The Wicked Tenants 20:9-18

- The picture of **tenants** in the story reminds us that leadership is a stewardship given by God.
- He remains the **owner of the vineyard** – the people.
- The **servants** represent the prophets who were rejected by the nation time after time.
- Ultimately God sent his **Son**.

2. The Wicked Tenants 20:9-18



2. The Wicked Tenants 20:9-18

- There are several lessons we can learn from this parable dealing with,
 1. The character of God
 2. The character of the leaders
 3. The future of the nation of Israel

2. The Wicked Tenants 20:9-18

(1) God is patient and longsuffering in waiting for his people to bear the fruit he requires of them, even when they are repeatedly and overtly hostile in their rebellion against him.

*– Craig Blomberg,
Denver Seminary*



2. The Wicked Tenants 20:9-18

(2) A day will come when God's patience is exhausted and those who have rejected him will be cast away from his presence.

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Denver Seminary*



2. The Wicked Tenants 20:9-18

(3) God's purposes will not thereby be thwarted, for he will raise up new leaders who will produce the fruit the original ones failed to provide. ¹

*– Craig Blomberg,
Denver Seminary*



2. The Wicked Tenants 20:9-18

- In other words, there is a future for national Israel, even if the nation's leaders are ungodly.
- That was true at the time of Christ, and it remains true even today.
- God still has plans for the church, the nations and his people Israel that we have not yet seen fulfilled.

2. The Wicked Tenants 20:9-18

- In all of this, however, the authority of Christ remains supreme. As we read in **Psalm 118:22-23** (ESV)

²² The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.

²³ This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

3. Render to Caesar 20:19-26

3. Render to Caesar 20:19-26

- This was supposed to be a trap to catch Jesus.
- These leaders did not desire to know God's will on the matter of taxes.
- **Luke 12:20** (ESV)

So they watched him and sent spies, who pretended to be sincere, that they might catch him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the authority and jurisdiction of the governor.

3. Render to Caesar 20:19-26



Roman Denarius coin from the time of Christ ³

3. Render to Caesar 20:19-26

- The face on the coin was Caesar's.
- The inscription said, "Tiberius Caesar, Augustus, son of the divine Augustus, chief priest" ²
- For average Jews, both the likeness and inscription on the coin seemed idolatrous.

3. Render to Caesar 20:19-26

- Jesus does not side with extremists like the zealots, who disrespected Rome and sometimes rebelled.
- He was willing to normally submit to secular rulers and give Caesar tax money, but not worship.
- Caesar wanted both.
- This applies to the question of civil disobedience.

3. Render to Caesar 20:19-26

- Christians should be law-abiding citizens in any nation, but we do that out of a primary obedience to God.
- There are rare but recurring cases where Caesar demands worship or intrudes in the church's ministry.
- Then our primary loyalty to God wins out.

3. Render to Caesar 20:19-26

- **Personal Illustration:**
- In earlier ministry days in Eastern Europe, it was my job to break secular laws regularly.
- Persecuted Christians were being regularly harassed.
- Bibles were not being printed or if printed, not distributed as needed.
- Our ministry helped them and broke laws to do so.

3. Render to Caesar 20:19-26

- We've been speaking mainly about
 1. Authority – which rightfully belongs to Jesus.
 2. Theology – which, it turns out, really matters a lot.
 3. Hypocrisy – and the need to avoid it.

3. Render to Caesar 20:19-26

- Now we will move to
 1. **Authority** – which rightfully belongs to Jesus.
 2. **Theology** – which, it turns out, really matters a lot.
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4. On the Resurrection 20:27-40

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- The Sadducees knew something about levirate (husband's brother) marriage from Deuteronomy 25.
- Overall, though they were mainly priests, they were not very good students of the Bible.
- Luke 20:27 (ESV)

There came to him some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection.

4. On the Resurrection 20:27-40

- Job 19:25-27 (ESV)

²⁵ For I know that my Redeemer lives,
and at the last he will stand upon the earth.

²⁶ And after my skin has been thus destroyed,
yet in my flesh I shall see God,

²⁷ whom I shall see for myself,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.
My heart faints within me!

4. On the Resurrection 20:27-40

- Psalm 16:9-10 (ESV)

⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;

my flesh also dwells secure.

¹⁰ For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption.

4. On the Resurrection 20:27-40

- Daniel 12:1-2 (ESV)

... And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. ² And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

4. On the Resurrection 20:27-40

- It is only in the New Testament that we get the full teaching on the resurrection.
- As we've seen, there is a future for national Israel.
- That future involves promises to the patriarchs who shall one day rise from the dead to enjoy them.
- The Bible **does not teach** that souls will live eternally without bodies to go with them.

5. David Calls Him Lord 20:41-44

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- If the Messiah is supposed to be the Son of David, why does David call this individual “Lord”?
- No culture venerates their descendants.

5. David Calls Him Lord 20:41-44

- The answer is found in the two natures of Jesus.
- He is not Son of David only, that is, merely human.
- He is also not only the Son of God as in only divine.
- He is both at the same time.
- The true Christian faith does not hold to one as opposed to the other, but to both.

Luke 20 The Nicene Creed

Luke 20 The Nicene Creed

- As we read, notice what this says about Christ's two natures in one Person.
- Notice also the clear, straightforward way it declares our belief in the resurrection of the dead.
- It speaks of Christ's resurrection and ours.

Luke 20 The Nicene Creed

- We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
- We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,

Luke 20 The Nicene Creed

- God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
- For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:

Luke 20 The Nicene Creed

- By the power of the Holy Spirit
 he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
 and was made man.
- For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered death and was buried.
- On the third day he rose again
 in accordance with the Scriptures;

Luke 20 The Nicene Creed

- He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
- He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
- We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

Luke 20 The Nicene Creed

- With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.
- We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
- We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
- We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

5. David Calls Him Lord 20:41-44

- Jesus will now warn us about
 1. **Authority** – which rightfully belongs to Jesus.
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6. Beware of the Scribes 20:45-47

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- Hypocritical religious big shots don't look that much different now than they did at the time of Christ.
- They like to look holy in front of others.
- They like to be honored in public.
- In private, they are normally greedy and often cruel.

Luke 20 What We Just Read

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Luke 20 Key Points

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Luke 20 Key Points

- From the argument about taxes, we learn this:
- Christians should be law-abiding citizens in any nation, but we do that out of a primary obedience to God.
- There are rare but recurring cases where Caesar demands worship or intrudes in the church's ministry.
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Luke 20 Key Verse

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- Luke 20:25 (ESV)

He said to them, “Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.”

Luke 20 A Prayer

Luke 20 A Prayer

- Dear God, holy Trinity, Father Son and Holy Spirit,
- We believe that Jesus Christ is truly God and truly human, both at the same time.
- We also acknowledge that, as God, Jesus has all authority in heaven and on earth.
- Please help us to be diligent students of your word so that we will believe rightly to the best of our ability.

Luke 20 A Prayer

- We trust that right beliefs about you will lead to a better understanding of you.
- Let this also lead to more complete obedience, better worship and a fuller appreciation for who you are and what you have done.
- And prevent us from all forms of hypocrisy.
- In Christ,
- Amen

Luke 20 References

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