

A (Very Brief) User's Guide to the Gospel of Luke

- **Who?**
 - Luke the physician?
 - Companion of Paul?
 - 2nd generation, 1st century Christian
 - Well-educated

- **When?**
 - Most likely in the 80s AD
 - Post 70 (destruction of the temple)
 - Unaware of Matthew's Gospel or Paul's letters

- **Where?**
 - Almost no clue
 - Less important than with other Gospels

- **Why?**
 - To provide a definitive account
 - Desire to establish Christianity as a legitimate religion
 - Pastoral support for Christians struggling with challenges
 - Illustrate role of Holy Spirit

Sources

- Gospel of Mark

- Stories collected and valued by Luke and/or his community (so-called *L* material)

- Theorized collection of saying of Jesus (called *Q*)

- Uses much less of Mark's material

- Much more liturgical material

Unique/Key Features

- 1. Address**
- 2. Historical Grounding**
- 3. Focus on Jerusalem**
- 4. Focus on Worship and Prayer**
- 5. Focus on Food**
- 6. Focus on the Oppressed**
- 7. Prominence of Women**
- 8. Pneumatology**
- 9. Fulfillment**
- 10. Soteriology**