

Jesus and his mission

according to Luke

Steve Walton

Trinity College, Bristol

The birth narratives 1–2

- Jesus' identity

31 And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him **Jesus**. 32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. 33 He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” 34 Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” 35 The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. 1:31-35

The birth narratives 1–2

- Jesus' identity

31 And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him **Jesus**. 32 **He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.** 33 He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” 34 Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” 35 The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. 1:31-35

The birth narratives 1–2

- Jesus' identity

31 And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him **Jesus**. 32 **He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.** 33 **He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."**

34 Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" 35 The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. 1:31-35

The birth narratives 1–2

- Jesus' identity

31 And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him **Jesus**. 32 **He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.** 33 **He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."**

34 Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" 35 The angel said to her, "**The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.** 1:31-35

The birth narratives 1–2

- Jesus' identity

- the announcement to Mary 1:31-35

‘Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David.’ 2:4

The birth narratives 1–2

- Jesus' identity
 - the announcement to Mary 1:31-35
 - Joseph's descent from David 2:4
 - ‘...to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is **the Messiah, the Lord**.’ 2:11
 - ‘And why has this happened to me, that **the mother of my Lord** comes to me?’ 1:43

The birth narratives 1–2

- Jesus' identity

- the announcement to Mary 1:31-35

- Joseph's descent from David 2:4

- Messiah and Lord 2:11; cf. 1:43

‘It had been revealed to [Simeon] by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death **before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.**’ 2:26

The birth narratives 1–2

- Jesus' identity
 - the announcement to Mary 1:31-35
 - Joseph's descent from David 2:4
 - Messiah and Lord 2:11; cf. 1:43; 2:26
 - Simeon waiting for the Messiah 2:26
- 'After three days [his parents] found [Jesus] in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.' 2:46-47
- Jesus grew in wisdom 2:40, 52

The birth narratives 1–2

- Jesus' mission

- Saviour 2:11

‘for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.’ 2:30-32

Jesus' ministry in Galilee 3:1–9:50

- Jesus' identity

- Jesus and the Spirit

‘Now when all the people were baptised, and when Jesus also had been baptised and was praying, the heaven was opened, and **the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove**. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” 3:21-22

Jesus' ministry in Galilee 3:1–9:50

- Jesus' identity

- Jesus and the Spirit 3:21-22

‘Jesus, **full of the Holy Spirit**, returned from the Jordan and was **led by the Spirit** in the wilderness’ 4:1

‘Then Jesus, **filled with the power of the Spirit**, returned to Galilee’ 4:14

‘**The Spirit of the Lord is upon me**’ 4:18

Jesus' ministry in Galilee 3:1–9:50

- Jesus' identity
 - Jesus and the Spirit 3:21-22; 4:1, 14, 18
 - Jesus' genealogy 3:23-27
 - ‘...son of Adam, son of God.’ v 37

Jesus' ministry in Galilee 3:1–9:50

- Jesus' mission
 - for the world

‘In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.’ 3:1-2

Jesus' ministry in Galilee 3:1–9:50

- Jesus' mission
 - for the world 3:1-2
 - 4:25-27 Gentiles who are blessed by God
- Jesus and Israel

“

...as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,
“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

Luke 3:4-6, quoting Isa 40:3-5

Jesus' ministry in Galilee 3:1–9:50

- Jesus' mission
 - for the world 3:1-2
 - 4:25-27 Gentiles who are blessed by God
- Jesus and Israel
 - new exodus 3:4-6 quoting Isa 40:3-5; cf. 9:31
 - the temptations and Jesus' responses 4:1-13

“

Jesus answered [the devil], “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’” v 4 = Deut 8:3

Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”
v 8 = Deut 6:13

Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” v 12 = Deut 6:16

Jesus' ministry in Galilee 3:1–9:50

- Jesus' mission
 - for the world 3:1-2; 4:25-27
 - Jesus and Israel 3:4-6; 4:1-13
 - Jesus' 'mission statement' 4:16-30

“ The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me;
to preach good news to the poor he has sent me:
to proclaim to the captives release
and to the blind sight,
to send out the oppressed in release,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.

Luke 4:18-19 = Isa 61:1-2 with a bit of Isa 58:6



The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me;
to preach good news to the poor he has sent me:
to proclaim to the captives release
and to the blind sight,
to send out the oppressed in release,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.

Luke 4:18-19 = Isa 61:1-2 with a bit of Isa 58:6



The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me;
to preach good news to the poor he has sent me:
to proclaim to the captives release
and to the blind sight,
to send out the oppressed in release,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.

Luke 4:18-19 = Isa 61:1-2 with a bit of Isa 58:6

Jesus' ministry in Galilee 3:1–9:50

- Jesus' mission
 - for the world 3:1-2; 4:25-27
 - Jesus and Israel 3:4-6; 4:1-13
 - Jesus' 'mission statement' 4:16-30; Isa 61:1-2
 - salvation as healing and deliverance
 - deliverance of demonised man by 'rebuke' 4:31-37, 41
 - healing of Simon's mother in law by 'rebuke' 4:38-39

Jesus' ministry in Galilee 3:1–9:50

- Jesus' mission
 - for the world 3:1-2; 4:25-27
 - Jesus and Israel 3:4-6; 4:1-13
 - Jesus' 'mission statement' 4:16-30; Isa 61:1-2
 - salvation as healing and deliverance 4:31-41
 - Jesus' announcement of God's kingdom 4:43
 - proclaims KofG with the twelve 8:1
 - the twelve proclaim KofG 9:2
 - the seventy(-two) proclaim KofG 10:9, 11

The journey to Jerusalem 9:51–19:44

- Jesus' mission
 - the kingdom of God
 - deliverance ministry 11:20
 - ‘...if it is by the finger of God that I cast out the demons, then the kingdom of God has come to you’

The journey to Jerusalem 9:51–19:44

- Jesus' mission
 - the kingdom of God
 - deliverance ministry 11:20
 - parables of the kingdom of God
 - mustard seed 13:18-19
 - yeast in the flour 13:20-21

‘There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrown out. Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God.’

13:28-29

The journey to Jerusalem 9:51–19:44

- Jesus' mission
 - the kingdom of God
 - deliverance ministry 11:20
 - parables of the kingdom of God 13:18-30
 - Jesus embodies the kingdom of God

‘Once Jesus was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God was coming, and he answered, “The kingdom of God is not coming with things that can be observed; nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or ‘There it is!’ For, in fact, **the kingdom of God is among you (ἐντὸς ὑμῶν).**” 17:20-21

The journey to Jerusalem 9:51–19:44

- Jesus' mission
 - the kingdom of God
 - deliverance ministry 11:20
 - parables of the kingdom of God 13:18-30
 - Jesus embodies the kingdom of God 17:20-21
 - the kingdom of God belongs to children (and those like them)

‘People were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them; and when the disciples saw it, they sternly ordered them not to do it. But Jesus called for them and said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for **it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs**. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” 18:15-17

The journey to Jerusalem 9:51–19:44

- Jesus' mission
 - the kingdom of God
 - deliverance ministry 11:20
 - parables of the kingdom of God 13:18-30
 - Jesus embodies the kingdom of God 17:20-21
 - the kingdom of God belongs to children (and those like them)

‘People were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them; and when the disciples saw it, they sternly ordered them not to do it. But Jesus called for them and said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for **it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.** Truly I tell you, **whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.**” 18:15-17

The journey to Jerusalem 9:51–19:44

- Jesus' mission
 - the kingdom of God
 - deliverance ministry 11:20
 - parables of the kingdom of God 13:18-30
 - Jesus embodies the kingdom of God 17:20-21
 - the kingdom of God belongs to children (and those like them)
 - 'People were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them; and when the disciples saw it, they sternly ordered them not to do it. But Jesus called for them and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for **it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.** Truly I tell you, **whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.**"' 18:15-17; cf. the rich ruler 18:18-25

The journey to Jerusalem 9:51–19:44

- Jesus' mission
 - the kingdom of God
 - Jerusalem as key to God's purposes
 - movement towards Jerusalem
 - 'it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside Jerusalem' 13:33-34

“

31 Then he took the twelve aside and said to them, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. 32 For he will be handed over to the Gentiles; and he will be mocked and insulted and spat upon. 33 After they have flogged him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise again.”

Luke 18:31-33

The journey to Jerusalem 9:51–19:44

- Jesus' mission
 - the kingdom of God
 - Jerusalem as key to God's purposes
 - movement towards Jerusalem
 - 'it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside Jerusalem' 13:33-34
 - 18:31-33, followed by the blind man 18:35-43
 - 19:10 'The son of man came to seek and to save the lost.' cf. 15:4, 6, 8, 9, 24, 32

The journey to Jerusalem 9:51–19:44

- Jesus' identity
 - king 19:37-40 (Ps 118:26)
 - **the** son of man

As I watched in the night visions, I saw **one like a son of man** coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.' Dan 7:13-14

The last week 19:45–24:53

- Jesus' identity

- king 19:37-40 (Ps 118:26)
- the son of man

‘[The Sanhedrin] said, “If you are the Messiah, tell us.” [Jesus] replied, “If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on **the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.**” All of them asked, “Are you, then, the Son of God?” He said to them, “You say that I am.” Then they said, “What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!”” 22:67-71

The last week 19:45–24:53

- Jesus' mission
 - 20:9-19 the wicked tenants
 - Jesus the 'son' who comes to claim the vineyard = Israel Isa 5
 - 21:5-26 Jerusalem will fall because it rejects Jesus

‘When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, “As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.” They asked him, “Teacher, when will **this** be, and what will be the sign that **this** is about to take place?”’ 21:5-7

The last week 19:45–24:53

- Jesus' mission
 - 20:9-19 the wicked tenants
 - Jesus the 'son' who comes to claim the vineyard = Israel Isa 5
 - 21:5-26 Jerusalem will fall because it rejects Jesus
 - 'When some were **speaking about the temple**, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, "As for **these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.**" They asked him, "Teacher, when will **this** be, and what will be the sign that **this** is about to take place?"' 21:5-7

The last week 19:45–24:53

- Jesus' mission
 - 20:9-19 the wicked tenants
 - 21:5-26 Jerusalem will fall because it rejects Jesus
 - the last supper explains Jesus' coming death
22:14-23
 - a passover event v 15
 - opens the way to the kingdom of God v 18
 - involves Jesus being given for the disciples v 19

“

Then [Jesus] took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is **given** for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” 22:19

Isa 53:10 LXX ‘If you **give** for sin’

Exod 30:14 each one ‘shall **give** a ransom for their lives to the Lord’

The last week 19:45–24:53

- Jesus' mission
 - 20:9-19 the wicked tenants
 - 21:5-26 Jerusalem will fall because it rejects Jesus
 - the last supper explains Jesus' coming death 22:14-23
 - a passover event v 15
 - opens the way to the kingdom of God v 18
 - involves Jesus being given for the disciples v 19
 - is to be remembered v 19b
 - inducts a new covenant v 20

“

This cup that is poured out for you
is **the new covenant in my blood.**

22:20

See **the blood of the covenant** that
the Lord has made with you in
accordance with these words

Exod 24:8

Luke 24

- Read Luke 24 in your group and sketch out the key features of the text which show how Luke sees
 - Jesus' identity
 - Jesus' mission