

CHRISTIANITY
EXPLORED
MINISTRIES

LUKE'S BOOK



Vox: Luke's Book

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ABOUT THE BIBLE

The Bible tells the story of God's love for people. It starts with creation and perfection, which is quickly broken by humanity's quest for life without God. But God never gives up. He provides a way for humanity to come home. How? By Jesus. Jesus is God come to earth. He came to save humanity from their failure and brokenness. He came to give life the way we were always intended to experience – forever. Jesus is the way back to God.

INTRODUCTION

A LITTLE BIT ABOUT LUKE'S BOOK

Luke is a book in the Bible that's named after its author who wrote it. Luke lived and wrote it all the way back in the first century AD, about 2,000 years ago.

It's one of the earliest eyewitness accounts of the life of Jesus. Luke went around and carefully recorded the testimonies of those who had been with Jesus and saw everything he had said and done.

Luke was a doctor who loved detail, and you'll notice this as you read his account of Jesus' life. He goes into so much detail about names, places, times and people, because he wants everyone who reads his book to be confident that what he's writing is true, reliable and certain.

Luke's Book is part of the bigger story of the Bible, and Luke wants to show us that Jesus is at the centre of everything. So, as you go through his book, look out for what Luke says about who Jesus is, his purpose on earth, and the difference he can make in your life.

**SHARE WHAT
MATTERS**

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1 Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled^a among us,² just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eye-witnesses and servants of the word.³ With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent **Theophilus**,⁴ so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST FORETOLD

5 In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron.⁶ Both of them were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly.⁷ But they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old.

⁸ Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God,⁹ he was chosen by lot, according to

the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense.¹⁰ And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshippers were praying outside.

¹¹ Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense.¹² When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear.¹³ But the angel said to him: 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John.¹⁴ He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth,¹⁵ for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the **Holy Spirit** even before he is born.¹⁶ He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God.¹⁷ And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous – to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.'

¹⁸ Zechariah asked the angel, 'How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well on in years.'

¹⁹ The angel said to him, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have

^a 1:1 Or *been surely believed*

CHAPTERS AND VERSES

Every book in the Bible is divided into chapters (the big numbers) and verses (the little numbers) to help you navigate your way around.

THEOPHILUS

Most likely Luke's friend who was an important person in society. Luke wants to prove to Theophilus that what he's learnt about Jesus is true.

HOLY SPIRIT

In the Bible, there is one God who is also three distinct persons, which we call 'the Trinity': God the Father, God the Son (who is Jesus) and God the Holy Spirit. Watch this video to learn more:



been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. ²⁰ And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time.'

²¹ Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering why he stayed so long in the temple. ²² When he came out, he could not speak to them. They realised he had seen a vision in the temple, for he kept making signs to them but remained unable to speak.

²³ When his time of service was completed, he returned home. ²⁴ After this his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and for five months remained in seclusion. ²⁵ 'The Lord has done this for me,' she said. 'In these days he has shown his favour and taken away my disgrace among the people.'

THE BIRTH OF JESUS FORETOLD

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, 'Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you.'

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over Jacob's descendants for ever; his kingdom will never end.'

^b 1:35 Or *So the child to be born will be called holy,*

³⁴ 'How will this be,' Mary asked the angel, 'since I am a virgin?'

³⁵ The angel answered, 'The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called^b the Son of God. ³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For no word from God will ever fail.'

³⁸ 'I am the Lord's servant,' Mary answered. 'May your word to me be fulfilled!' Then the angel left her.

MARY VISITS ELIZABETH

³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³ But why am I so favoured, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfil his promises to her!'

MARY'S SONG

⁴⁶ And Mary said:

'My soul glorifies the Lord

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
⁴⁸ for he has been mindful
of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed,

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me –
 holy is his name.

⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him,
 from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with
 his arm;

he has scattered those who are proud in
 their inmost thoughts.

⁵² He has brought down rulers from
 their thrones

but has lifted up the humble.

⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things
 but has sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
 remembering to be merciful

⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants for ever,
 just as he promised our ancestors!

⁵⁶ Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three
 months and then returned home.

THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

⁵⁷ When it was time for Elizabeth to have her
 baby, she gave birth to a son. ⁵⁸ Her neigh-
 bours and relatives heard that the Lord had
 shown her great mercy, and they shared
 her joy.

⁵⁹ On the eighth day they came to cir-
 cumcise the child, and they were going to
 name him after his father Zechariah, ⁶⁰ but
 his mother spoke up and said, 'No! He is to
 be called John!'

⁶¹ They said to her, 'There is no-one among
 your relatives who has that name.'

⁶² Then they made signs to his father,
 to find out what he would like to name the
 child. ⁶³ He asked for a writing tablet, and
 to everyone's astonishment he wrote, 'His
 name is John.' ⁶⁴ Immediately his mouth was
 opened and his tongue set free, and he began
 to speak, praising God. ⁶⁵ All the neighbours

were filled with awe, and throughout the hill
 country of Judea people were talking about
 all these things. ⁶⁶ Everyone who heard this
 wondered about it, asking, 'What then is this
 child going to be?' For the Lord's hand was
 with him.

ZECHARIAH'S SONG

⁶⁷ His father Zechariah was filled with the
 Holy Spirit and prophesied:

⁶⁸ 'Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,
 because he has come to his people and
 redeemed them.

⁶⁹ He has raised up a horn^c of salvation for us
 in the house of his servant David

⁷⁰ (as he said through his holy prophets of
 long ago),

⁷¹ salvation from our enemies
 and from the hand of all who hate us –

⁷² to show mercy to our ancestors
 and to remember his holy covenant,

⁷³ the oath he swore to our father Abraham:
⁷⁴ to rescue us from the hand of our enemies,

and to enable us to serve him without fear
⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness before
 him all our days.

⁷⁶ And you, my child, will be called a prophet
 of the Most High;

for you will go on before the Lord to pre-
 pare the way for him,

⁷⁷ to give his people the knowledge
 of salvation

through the forgiveness of their sins,

⁷⁸ because of the tender mercy of our God,

by which the rising sun will come to us
 from heaven

⁷⁹ to shine on those living in darkness

and in the shadow of death,
 to guide our feet into the path of peace.'

^c 1:69 *Horn* here symbolises a strong king.

⁸⁰ And the child grew and became strong in spirit^d; and he lived in the wilderness until he appeared publicly to Israel.

CHAPTER 2

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

¹ In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while^a Quirinius was governor of Syria.)³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.'

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ 'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom
his favour rests.'

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.'

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

²¹ On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived.

KEY VERSE

Luke 2:11

Today in the town of David a
Saviour has been born to you;
he is the Messiah, the Lord.

JESUS PRESENTED IN THE TEMPLE

²² When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present

^d 1:80 Or in the Spirit ^a 2:2 Or This census took place before

him to the Lord²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord'^b),²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: 'a pair of doves or two young pigeons'.^c

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

²⁹ 'Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss^d your servant in peace.

³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel!'

³³ The child's father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: 'This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then

was a widow until she was eighty-four.^e She never left the temple but worshipped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

THE BOY JESUS AT THE TEMPLE

⁴¹ Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. ⁴² When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. ⁴³ After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ⁴⁴ Thinking he was in their company, they travelled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, 'Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.'

⁴⁹ 'Why were you searching for me?' he asked. 'Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?'^f ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

^b 2:23 Exodus 13:2,12 ^c 2:24 Lev. 12:8 ^d 2:29 Or *promised, / now dismiss* ^e 2:37 Or *then had been a widow for eighty-four years.*

⁵¹ Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

PAUSE POINT

Read Luke 2:8–20

- **What do you think Christianity is all about?**
- **What do we find out about Jesus in this bit of Luke? What stands out to you most?**
- **Do you think the Bible is true? Why? Why not? Can we trust what Luke says about Jesus?**

REMINDER

If Jesus is more than just a nice guy, if Luke is right when he says that Jesus is God come to earth, then surely we need to spend some time investigating who he is and what he's all about.

CHAPTER 3

JOHN THE BAPTIST PREPARES THE WAY

¹ In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar – when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene – ² during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all

the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴ As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

'A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
"Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill made low.
The crooked roads shall become straight,
the rough ways smooth.

⁶ And all people will see God's salvation."^{1a}

⁷ John said to the crowds coming out to be baptised by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father." For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹ The axe has been laid to the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.'

¹⁰ 'What should we do then?' the crowd asked.

¹¹ John answered, 'Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.'

¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptised. 'Teacher,' they asked, 'what should we do?'

¹³ 'Don't collect any more than you are required to,' he told them.

¹⁴ Then some soldiers asked him, 'And what should we do?'

He replied, 'Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely – be content with your pay.'

^{1a} 2:49 Or be about my Father's business ^a 3:6 Isaiah 40:3-5

¹⁵ The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶ John answered them all, 'I baptise you with^b water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with^c the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.' ¹⁸ And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

¹⁹ But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of his marriage to Herodias, his brother's wife, and all the other evil things he had done, ²⁰ Herod added this to them all: he locked John up in prison.

THE BAPTISM AND GENEALOGY OF JESUS

²¹ When all the people were being baptised, Jesus was baptised too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'

²³ Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph,

the son of Heli, ²⁴ the son of Matthat,

the son of Levi, the son of Melki,

the son of Jannai, the son of Joseph,

²⁵ the son of Mattathias, the son of Amos,

the son of Nahum, the son of Esli,

the son of Naggai, ²⁶ the son of Maath,

the son of Mattathias, the son of Semein,

the son of Josek, the son of Joda,

KEY VERSES

Luke 3:21–22

When all the people were being baptised, Jesus was baptised too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'

²⁷ the son of Joanan, the son of Rhesa, the son of Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, the son of Neri, ²⁸ the son of Melki, the son of Addi, the son of Cosam, the son of Elmadam, the son of Er, ²⁹ the son of Joshua, the son of Eliezer, the son of Jorim, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, ³⁰ the son of Simeon, the son of Judah, the son of Joseph, the son of Jonam, the son of Eliakim, ³¹ the son of Melea, the son of Menna, the son of Mattatha, the son of Nathan, the son of David, ³² the son of Jesse, the son of Obed, the son of Boaz, the son of Salmon,^d the son of Nahshon, ³³ the son of Amminadab, the son of Ram,^e the son of Hezron, the son of Perez, the son of Judah, ³⁴ the son of Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, the son of Terah, the son of Nahor, ³⁵ the son of Serug, the son of Reu,

^b 3:16 Or in ^c 3:16 Or in ^d 2:32 Some early manuscripts *Sala* ^e 2:33 Some manuscripts *Amminadab, the son of Admin, the son of Arni*; other manuscripts vary widely.

the son of Peleg, the son of Eber,
 the son of Shelah,³⁶ the son of Cainan,
 the son of Arphaxad, the son of Shem,
 the son of Noah, the son of Lamech,
³⁷ the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch,
 the son of Jared, the son of Mahalalel,
 the son of Kenan,³⁸ the son of Enosh,
 the son of Seth, the son of Adam,
 the son of God.

CHAPTER 4

JESUS IS TESTED IN THE WILDERNESS

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted^a by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

³ The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.'

⁴ Jesus answered, 'It is written: "Man shall not live on bread alone."^b

⁵ The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And he said to him, 'I will give you all their authority and splendour; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. ⁷ If you worship me, it will all be yours.'

⁸ Jesus answered, 'It is written: "Worship the Lord your God and serve him only."^c

⁹ The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down from here. ¹⁰ For it is written:

"He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully;

¹¹ they will lift you up in their hands,

so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."^d

¹² Jesus answered, 'It is said: "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."^e

¹³ When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

JESUS REJECTED AT NAZARETH

¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵ He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸ 'The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners

and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'^f

²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹ He began by saying to them, 'Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.'

²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. 'Isn't this Joseph's son?' they asked.

²³ Jesus said to them, 'Surely you will quote this proverb to me: "Physician, heal

^a 4:2 The Greek for *tempted* can also mean *tested*. ^b 4:4 Deut. 8:3 ^c 4:8 Deut. 6:13 ^d 4:11 Psalm 91:11,12 ^e 4:12 Deut. 6:16 ^f 4:19 Isaiah 61:1,2 (see Septuagint); Isaiah 58:6

yourself!" And you will tell me, "Do here in your home town what we have heard that you did in Capernaum."

²⁴ 'Truly I tell you,' he continued, 'no prophet is accepted in his home town. ²⁵ I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. ²⁶ Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. ²⁷ And there were many in Israel with leprosy[§] in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed – only Naaman the Syrian.'

²⁸ All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

JESUS DRIVES OUT AN IMPURE SPIRIT

³¹ Then he went down to Capernaum, a town in Galilee, and on the Sabbath he taught the people. ³² They were amazed at his teaching, because his words had authority.

³³ In the synagogue there was a man possessed by a demon, an impure spirit. He cried out at the top of his voice, ³⁴ 'Go away! What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are – the Holy One of God!'

³⁵ 'Be quiet!' Jesus said sternly. 'Come out of him!' Then the demon threw the man down before them all and came out without injuring him.

³⁶ All the people were amazed and said to each other, 'What words these are! With authority and power he gives orders to

impure spirits and they come out!' ³⁷ And the news about him spread throughout the surrounding area.

JESUS HEALS MANY

³⁸ Jesus left the synagogue and went to the home of Simon. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her. ³⁹ So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and began to wait on them.

⁴⁰ At sunset, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of illness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them. ⁴¹ Moreover, demons came out of many people, shouting, 'You are the Son of God!' But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew he was the Messiah.

⁴² At daybreak, Jesus went out to a solitary place. The people were looking for him and when they came to where he was, they tried to keep him from leaving them. ⁴³ But he said, 'I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent.' ⁴⁴ And he kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

KEY VERSE

Luke 4:43

But he said, 'must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent!'

[§] 4:27 The Greek word traditionally translated *leprosy* was used for various diseases affecting the skin.