

BIBLE STUDY

9/26/13

Luke and Prayer Compared to other Gospels

Luke 3:21-22

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, Jesus was also baptized, and while He was praying, heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came out of heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased."

Luke 9:28-36

²⁸ Some eight days after these sayings, He took along Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And while He was praying, the appearance of His face became different, and His clothing *became* white and lightening flashes. ³⁰ And behold, two men were talking with Him; and they were Moses and Elijah, ³¹ who, appearing in glory, were speaking of His exodus which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and his companions had been overcome with sleep; but when they were fully awake, they saw His glory and the two men standing with Him.

Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus arrived from Galilee at the Jordan coming to John, to be baptized by him.... After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and lighting on Him. And behold, a voice out of the heavens said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."

Mark 9:2-8

Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John, and brought them up on a high mountain by themselves. And He was transfigured before them; and His garments became radiant and exceedingly white, as no launderer on earth can whiten them. Elijah appeared to them along with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus...

Luke 18:1-8

Now He was telling them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose heart, ² saying, "In a certain city there was a judge who did not fear God and did not respect man. ³ There was a widow in that city, and she kept coming to him, saying, 'Give me legal protection from my opponent.' ⁴ For a while he was unwilling; but afterward he said to himself, 'Even though I do not fear God nor respect man, ⁵ yet because this widow bothers me, will give her legal protection, otherwise by continually coming she will wear me out.'" ⁶ And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge said; ⁷ now, will not God bring about justice for His elect who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them? ⁸ I tell you that He will bring about justice for them quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?

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"Luke 18:9-14

⁹ And He also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt: ¹⁰ "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: 'God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.' ¹³ But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, the sinner!' ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

LUKE AND PRAYER

Luke is known as the evangelist of prayer.

Luke 1:8-13

At the Temple

Now it happened that while Zacharias was performing his priestly service before God...he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense (the burning incense represented the prayers of the people, as in Ps. 141:2; Rev. 5:8; 8:3-4). And the whole multitude of the people were in prayer outside...

Luke 24:50-52

At the Ascension and at the Temple
And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. While He was blessing them, He parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they, after worshiping Him, returned to Jerusalem with great joy and were continually in the temple blessing God.

Luke 22:39-40

At Gethsemane

And Jesus proceeded as was His custom to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples also followed Him. When He arrived at the place, He said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation."

Luke 22:45-46

At Gethsemane

When Jesus rose from prayer, He came to the disciples and found them sleeping from sorrow, and said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not enter into temptation."

Luke 23:33-34

At the crucifixion

When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified Him and the criminals...But Jesus was saying, "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing."

Luke 23:46

At His death

And Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into Your hands I commit My Spirit."

LUKE DEMONSTRATES PRAYER

Luke 10:38-11:2

³⁸ Now as they were traveling along, He entered a village; and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home. ³⁹ She had a sister called Mary, who was seated at the Lord's feet, listening to His word. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted with all her preparations; and she came up *to Him* and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to do all the serving alone? Then tell her to help me." ⁴¹ But the Lord answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things; ⁴² but *only* one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her."

It happened that while Jesus was praying in a certain place, after He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray just as John also taught his disciples." ² And He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be Your name.

Reading Genesis and Luke 1-2 Side by Side

Genesis

"Now Sarai was barren; she had no child" (11:30).

The Lord to Abram: "I will make of you a great nation, and I will...make your name great..." (12:2).

The Lord to Abram: "...I will bless you..." (12:2). Melchizedek to Abram: "He blessed him and said, 'Blessed be Abram...'" (14:19).

Promises of the Lord to Abram: "To your seed will give this land" (12:7); "...all the land that you see I will give to you and to your seed forever" (13:14-17; 17:7; 18:18; 22:17).

Melchizedek to Abram: "...blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand" (14:20; 15:13-14; 22:17).

The Lord to Abram: "Do not be afraid, Abram" (Gen. 15:1)

Luke

"But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren" (1:7).

An angel of the Lord to Zechariah, concerning John: "he will be great in the sight of the Lord" (1:15); Gabriel to Mary, concerning Jesus: "He will be great" (1:32).

Elizabeth, full of the Holy Spirit, to Mary: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb... And blessed is she who believed..." (1:41, 45). Simeon, on whom the Spirit rested, with respect to Jesus' parents: "Then Simeon blessed them..." (2:25, 34).

Promises to Abraham remembered by God to Mary: "...according to the promise He made...to Abraham and to his seed forever" (1:55). To Zechariah: "...the oath that he swore to our ancestor, Abraham, to give us..." (1:73).

Gabriel to Mary: "[Jesus] will be called the Son of the Most High...and the power of the Most High will overshadow you..." (1:32, 35). Zechariah to John: "And you, child will be called the prophet of the Most High" (1:76). Zechariah: "...that we, being delivered from the hands of our enemies," (1:74).

The angel of the Lord to Zacharias "Do not be afraid, Zacharias..." (1:13). Gabriel to Mary: "Do not be afraid, Mary..."

The Angel of the Lord to Hagar: "Now you have conceived in your womb and shall bear a son; you shall call him Ishmael.... He shall be a wild ass of a man..." (16:11-12).

God to Abram: "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless" (17:1).

God to Abraham: "...I will give you a son by [Sarah]..." 17:16; "...your wife Sarah shall bear you a son, and you will name him Isaac (17:19).

"Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age....So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, 'After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?' (18:14).

The Lord to Abraham: "Is anything impossible with God?" (18:14).

Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son..." (21:2).

Of Isaac: "The child grew, and was weaned..." (21:8); of the son of Hagar: "God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness..." (21:20).

Both of them [Elizabeth and Zacharias] were righteous before God, walking blamelessly..." (1:6).

The angel of the Lord to Zacharias: "Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John" (1:13); Gabriel to Mary: "And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus" (1:31).

Zacharias and Elizabeth "...were advanced in age" (1:7); Zacharias to God: "For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in age" (1:18).

Gabriel to Mary: "For nothing will be impossible with God" (1:37).

"Elizabeth conceived...and she bore a son" (1:24, 57).

Of John: "The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness..." (1:80); Of Jesus: "The child grew and became strong...and the favor of God was upon him" (2:40; 2:52).

Luke 1:5-20

⁵ In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zacharias,; and he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, ...Elizabeth...⁷ But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both advanced in years.

⁸ Now it happened *that* while he was performing his priestly service before God..., he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. ¹⁰ And the whole multitude of the people were in prayer outside at the hour of the incense offering. ¹¹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the altar of incense. ¹² Zacharias was troubled when he saw *the angel*, and fear gripped him. ¹³ But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your petition has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will give him the name John. ...And he will be great in the sight of the Lord; and he will drink no wine or liquor, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit while yet in his mother's womb. ¹⁶ And he will turn many of the sons of Israel back to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ It is he who will go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah... ¹⁸ Zacharias said, "How will I know this *for certain*? For I am an old man and my wife is advanced in years." ¹⁹ The angel answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you... ²⁰ And behold, you shall be silent and unable to speak until the day when these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their proper time."

Luke 1:26-38

Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin^u engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the ^udescendants of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And coming in, he said to her, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord *is* with you." ²⁹ But she was very troubled at *this* statement, and kept pondering what kind of salutation this was. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; ³³ and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ The angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God... nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ And Mary said, "Behold, the bondsman of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Later, Elizabeth says to Mary, ⁴⁵ "And blessed *is* she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord."