

- LUKE -

Who Was Luke?

**To be honest,
we really don't know...**

None of the writers of the Gospels signed their works. However, the early church attributed two books, a Gospel and a Historical Narrative (Acts of the Apostles) to 'Luke', the companion of Paul mentioned in Col. 4:1.

'Luke' probably wrote in Antioch in Syria, in 85 CE, for a Gentile community who were fairly well educated!

Luke's Purpose

Like all the Gospel writers, Luke writes to share his belief that Jesus was the Messiah.

Luke describes Jesus as a gentle man, accepting and forgiving, even at his death. Jesus' message of God's love is for the whole world, especially those who are oppressed, marginalised or outcast for any reason.

Luke's Gospel has been called a Gospel of Jubilee because Luke writes so strongly about people who are 'lost' and then 'found'. See one of his best known chapters, Chapter 15.

Luke's interests are really clear! He talks more about the Holy Spirit than any other Gospel writer; he also shows Jesus praying more often than Matthew, Mark and John do. Luke tells us the most about Mary, and Jesus also eats more in 'Luke'!

Luke's Style

Luke writes in Greek.

He uses Mark's Gospel as his basic outline and then adds many stories from his own community; for example The Good Samaritan, Zacchaeus and The Lost Son.

Luke likes to use speeches in his writing. He also likes to use journeys: physical and spiritual.