

## The Gospel According to...*Luke*

### I. The (conflated) Christmas Story: two stories, one pageant

- A. Matthew: Magi, Flight to Egypt, Annunciation to Joseph
- B. Luke: Shepherds, Journey to Bethlehem, Annunciation to Mary

### II. Bethlehem vs. Nazareth

- A. Matthew: from Bethlehem (Mt 2:12, 16); born Bethlehem; relocates Nazareth (Mt 2:22-23)
- B. Luke: from Nazareth; born Bethlehem; hometown Nazareth.

### III. Hannah's Song (1 Sam 2:1-10) and Magnificat (Lk 1:46-55)

### IV. Historical Context

- A. Who was in charge? (Lk 2:1-2; 3:1-2): Herod died in 4 BCE; Quirinius b/c gov. 6 C.E.
- B. Census – no record
- C. Genealogy of Joseph

Joseph's ancestry	Matthew 1	Luke 3:23-28
	<i>line of David's son Nathan</i>	<i>line of David's son Solomon</i>
Paternal great-great grandfather	Eliud	Melchi
Paternal great-grandfather	Eleazar	Levi
Paternal grandfather	Matthan	Matthat
Father	Jacob	Heli
	Joseph	Joseph

### V. Supercessionism (Luke 23:4, 14-15, 22, 47)

### VI. Philo on Pilate: "his violence, his thefts, his assaults, his abusive behavior, his frequent executions of untried prisoners, and his endless savage ferocity" (*Gaium* 302).

## Luke II: *The Acts of the Apostles*

### VII. Matthais (Acts 1:23-26)

### VIII. From Acts 2 to Acts 6...compromising original vision of shared wealth

### IX. Acts 7:60 (Stephen)

1. **Acts Seminar (Westar Institue)** - met twice a year beginning in 2001 and concluded its work at the spring Westar meeting in 2011

#### Top ten accomplishment of the Acts Seminar

1. The use of Acts as a source for history has **long needed critical reassessment.**
2. Acts was written in the **early decades of the second century.**
3. The author of Acts used the **letters of Paul as sources.**
4. Except for the letters of Paul, **no other historically reliable source can be identified for Acts.**
5. Acts can **no longer be considered an independent source for the life and mission of Paul.**
6. Contrary to Acts 1-7, **Jerusalem was not the birthplace of Christianity.**
7. Acts constructs its story on the **model of epic** and related literature.
8. The author of Acts **created names for characters as storytelling devices.**
9. Acts **constructs its story to fit ideological goals.**
10. Acts is a **primary historical source for second century Christianity.**

## The Gospel According to...*John*

### I. Introduction

- a. Public Ministry - chapters 1-12 (2-3 years) -- Passover Trilogy (John 2:13; 6:4; 11:55)
- b. Passion – chapters 13-19 (24 hours)

### II. Synoptics vs. John: Formational vs. Informational

- a. John: 90% of John is unique
- b. Synoptics: 80% of Mark's vv. are reproduced in Matthew and 65% in Luke

- c. What is missing in John: No birth narrative, temptation, proclamation of “kingdom of God,” parables, exorcising demons, Transfiguration, Messianic Secret, Lord’s Supper, Gethsemane prayer, trial before Sanhedrin.
- d. Some similarities: many same characters, some same stories: feedings of the 5,000, walking on water, and the Passion account is quite similar
- e. Unique to John:
  - i. Less miracles, but more spectacular—inverse of Messianic Secret (water into wine, healing of the lame man by pool of Bethzada, raising of Lazarus)
  - ii. Many long discourses by Jesus, about Jesus: Mark and Luke: “I am” 2 times; Matthew: “I am” 5 times; John: “I am” 46 times

III. **Prologue**: doesn’t sound like Greco-Roman biography til verse 19.