

1 **Luke: Narrative, Fulfilment, and Witness****Lecture 3**

Alistair Wilson

Highland Theological College UHI

2 **'That is why I was sent'**

(Luke 4:14-44)

3 **Outline of series**

- Lecture 1: Introduction 'So that you may know the certainty' (Luke 1:1-4)
- Lecture 2: 'A light for revelation to the Gentiles' (Luke 2:22-40)
- Lecture 3: 'That is why I was sent' (Luke 4:14-44)
- Lecture 4: 'For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost' (Luke 19:1-10)
- Lecture 5: 'You are witnesses of these things' (Luke 24:1-53)

4 **Outline of lecture**

- Summary statement
- Four Main Scenes
 - Teaching in Nazareth
 - Confronting demons in Capernaum
 - Healing in Capernaum
 - Leaving to preach elsewhere

5 **Summary Statement**

- Connection to the temptation narrative
- Emphasis on the role of the Spirit
- News (*pheme*) was spreading
- Teaching in synagogues was his typical practice
 - Leading to all 'praising' or 'glorifying' him

6 **At the Synagogue (1)**

- One specific synagogue
 - Jesus' own home town
 - According to his custom
 - Our earliest account of events at a synagogue
- Location and function within Luke (cf. Mark 6:1-6)
- Jesus reads the Scriptures
 - He stood up
 - He was given the scroll
 - He located the passage (Isa 61)

7 **At the Synagogue (2)**

- Quotation from Isa 61:1-2 (cf Lev 25:10)
- Key ideas in the passage
 - Spirit
 - Anointed
 - To proclaim good news (*euangelidzomai*) to the poor
 - Sent (*apostello*)

- To *announce* release to prisoners and sight to blind
- 'To send in release' ('set free') the oppressed
- *To announce*

8 **At the Synagogue (3)**

- He returned the scroll and sat down *to teach*
- Key message: "Today as you listen, this Scripture has been fulfilled." (CSB)
- All spoke well of him ('were testifying [*emartuoun*] to him')
 - But familiarity raised questions.
 - And Jesus uses a riddle.

9 **At the Synagogue (4)**

- Provoking stories of Elijah and Elisha
 - Key point: Grace to the nations
- Tone changes dramatically
 - Anger
 - Attempted violence
 - But, miraculous escape

10 **In Capernaum Synagogue**

- Scene set.
 - Note changes of location
 - Connection to synagogue and teaching
 - 'word(s)/message had authority'
- Confrontation by demon-possessed man
 - Anger
 - 'Testimony'
 - Rejection
- Jesus commands: a simple word demonstrates authority
- Scene closed

11 **In Capernaum Home**

- Scene set.
 - Another change of location
- Illness rather than Demons
 - Yet fever is 'rebuked'
- Again, Jesus commands: a simple word demonstrates authority
- 'Messianic secret' (34-35, 41)
- Scene closed

12 **Departure to preach**

- Jesus chooses a solitary place
 - To pray?
- The local people have their own priorities
 - They seek to restrain Jesus
- Jesus has a clear priority
 - Proclaim the good news (*euangelidzomai*) of the kingdom of God
 - 'That is why I was sent' (*apostello*, 'mission')

- Scene closed: preaching in synagogues

13 **Conclusion**

- Luke has carefully constructed the narrative
- Luke highlights Jesus character and calling through various kinds of 'testimony'
 - The Anointed One
 - The One with Authority
 - The One who was Sent
-