

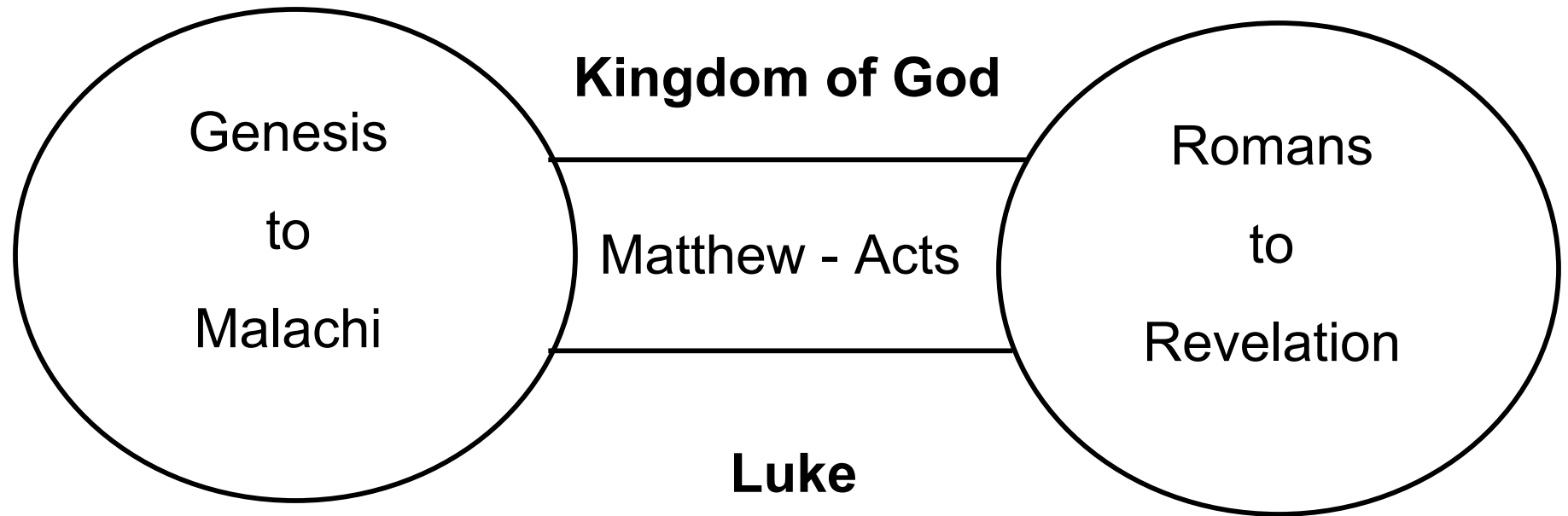
Welcome to "Retreat 2010"



www.learningandlivingtheword.com

February 6, 2009

Session #3



Luke builds the bridge as follows:

- *The gospel of Luke from the OT to Jesus*
- *The book of Acts from Jesus to Paul*

The bridge that Luke builds is based on the **kingdom of God**

In Luke you have it opening with a sense of expectation from the pious Jews like Zechariah, Simeon and Anna, they are all thinking that God is going to fulfill His purposes with Israel.

They are looking for the redemption of Jerusalem, as they are waiting for the kingdom of God

Go to Luke 1:31-33

Luke 1:31 “And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus.

Luke 1:32 “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; (*cross ref; 2 Samuel 7:13-17*)

Luke 1:33 and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.”

This means that Christ is the Davidic King and it is through this child that kingdom of God will come

Luke does not define this kingdom just in words of authority but also One who is a Savior, look at **Luke 2:8-11**

Luke 2:8 ¶ In the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night.

Luke 2:9 And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened.

Luke 2:10 But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people;

Luke 2:11 for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Luke sees Jesus as King and...

➤ Luke 1:31-33

Jesus as Savior

➤ Luke 2:8-11 as the same thing not two separate things

The kingdom of God is here;

Which means that you poor shepherds who were rejected by the established religious system of the day, poor outcast sinners who were marginalized you now have a Savior

Luke then goes on to explain the baptism of the Lord Jesus as a key moment in His life because this was the anointing of His public ministry.

Remember when David was taken from his sheep and was anointed by Samuel to be king with that oil.

Up to that point He was the Son of God but was not officially installed in His office as Messiah, and He begins to heal the sick, forgives sins, raise the dead and preaches the gospel

Luke 8:1 ¶ Soon afterwards, He began going around from one city and village to another, proclaiming and preaching the kingdom of God. The twelve were with Him

The word preach (euaggelizo) is the same word used for when Jesus went around preaching the gospel (Check out Luke 9:6)

Jesus is proclaiming the good news that the kingdom of God has arrived (*notice connection between Savior and King*)

How do we know that the kingdom is here?

Because the King is here

And why is that good news?

Because this King is a Savior

Therefore Jesus is preaching the good news that in His own Person and work, God has finally acted to save His people from their sins

That is why we see Jesus going around doing all these things such as healing the sick, because this is a sign of a spiritual sickness that is the result of the fall

Go to Mark 5:25-34 - the word for well is “sozo” in the Greek and means salvation

Jesus actually eats and drinks with sinners, He has fellowship with them

He also forgives sin - **Go to Luke 5:17-26**

Remember the man on the mat that his friends let in through the hole in the roof and Jesus forgave him of his sins thus proving He was God.

The outward sign of the inward reality that his sins had been forgiven
(*powerful proof text for the deity of Jesus*)

Jesus was forgiving him not only of the sins he committed against other people but the sins he committed against God

There is another thing that comes up quite a lot in the gospels and that is that He casts out demons

Why is that important?

Because this miracles substantiate His claim that He is the Son of God and represents His authority in the kingdom of God over the demonic realm

His power to cast out demons is another indicator that the kingdom of God has come

Go to **Luke 11:20** - “But if I cast out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Also found in **Matthew 12:25-28**

So the kingdom of God is not about Jesus defeating the Romans but it is about defeating the devil

1 John 3:8 the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.

This right now is a spiritual kingdom in which He is rescuing sinners from the domain of darkness and transferring them into the kingdom of light (Go to **Colossians 1:13**)

This kingdom was not physically present so it had to be spiritually discerned. It could be seen through the miracles

This is also why Jesus continues to utilize parables when talking about the kingdom

The kingdom in this stage of redemptive history is not something that you can see with your eyes. It comes in a hidden way but it has cosmic consequences

You can't even tell the difference between the wheat and the tares right now in the church

Yet at the end of the age Christ will set up His kingdom in a physical way and He will separate the goats from the sheep and the tares from the wheat.

All of the miracles that Jesus is doing points to this kingdom
And in all of this everything is heading to His death and resurrection

Go to Luke 22:24-30, the kingdom of God comes up again;

Luke 22:24 ¶ And there arose also a dispute among them as to which one of them was regarded to be greatest.

Luke 22:25 And He said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who have authority over them are called ‘Benefactors.’

Luke 22:26 “But it is not this way with you, but the one who is the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like the servant.

Luke 22:27 “For who is greater, the one who reclines at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at the table? But I am among you as the one who serves.

Luke 22:28 ¶ “You are those who have stood by Me in My trials;

Luke 22:29 and just as My Father has granted Me a kingdom, I grant you

Luke 22:30 that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

On the night before His death Jesus took out the bread and the wine to teach the significance of His death

Just like prior to the people of Israel going through the Red Sea God instituted the meal of the Passover

What is the significance of the water separating and people walking through it?

This is teaching the nation of Israel that in walking down in the water it represents your death and in coming out on the other side represent the resurrection to new life

The Passover meals teaches of this significance for they were to take a lamb and kill it and then put the blood on the door posts and as the Destroying Angel is passing over those with the blood on the door posts because they are already judged and those who don't are having their first born children and animals killed

Jesus explains the significance when they take the bread and wine. He tells them that it will look like a Jewish Rabbi got whacked by the Romans to human eyes with no faith. But you will see the event with spiritual eyes.

Jesus is tying this event to the kingdom and says just as My Father has given Me a kingdom so I am going to grant you a kingdom

We receive and enter into the kingdom on the basis of Christ's sacrificial death for us.

After His resurrection and His meeting with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus he repeats this information about the kingdom

Go to Luke 24:21-27

Luke 24:21 “But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, it is the third day since these things happened.

Jesus explains to them that what just happened of His death and resurrection is the fulfillment of the OT promises

Luke 24:26 “Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?”

Luke 24:27 Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

The book of Luke begins and ends with the same theme of pious Jews who were anticipating the coming of the Messiah

So what Luke is teaching us then about Jesus is His birth, baptism, miracles, teaching, cross and resurrection that is God coming to redeem Israel.

God has restored the kingdom back to Israel through the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ

O foolish men and slow to believe this is exactly what the OT said was going to happen

So now Luke has built the first half of the bridge from the OT to Jesus. And now Luke will finish the bridge in Acts as he connects the dots from Jesus to Paul

Go to Acts 1:1-8

Acts 1:1 ¶ The first account I composed, Theophilus, about all that Jesus began to do and teach,

Acts 1:2 until the day when He was taken up to heaven, after He had by the Holy Spirit given orders to the apostles whom He had chosen.

Acts 1:3 To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God.

Acts 1:4 Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, “Which,” He said, “you heard of from Me;

Acts 1:5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

Go to Acts 1:1-8

Acts 1:6 ¶ So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, “Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?”

Acts 1:7 He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority;

Acts 1:8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

If you were tracking in the gospel of Luke then you understand the answer Jesus gives in Acts 1:8, I am restoring the kingdom of God to Israel not in the earthly manner that you imagined but through the gift of the Holy Spirit and through the preaching of the gospel to the ends of the earth

Go to Acts 8:12 But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized, men and women alike.

Go to Acts 28:23 When they had set a day for Paul, they came to him at his lodging in large numbers; and he was explaining to them by solemnly testifying about the kingdom of God and trying to persuade them concerning Jesus, from both the Law of Moses and from the Prophets, from morning until evening.

Go to Acts 28:30-31

Acts 28:30 ¶ And he stayed two full years in his own rented quarters and was welcoming all who came to him,

Acts 28:31 preaching the kingdom of God and teaching concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with all openness, unhindered.

Why does Luke not tell us the result and the outcome for the apostle Paul?

He doesn't tell us because this is not Luke's main concern

Luke's concern is to build a bridge from the OT to the NT and therefore the church properly places Luke's letters at the beginning of the bridge then you go right to the explanation in Romans

How did Paul explain the preaching of the kingdom of God, well now read Romans