



Descriptive sheet of the Gospel of Luke

Author

The Gospel of Luke is named after its author. According to traditions, it is likely that Luke was not a Jew. In fact, Luke would be the only non-Jew to whom God entrusted the task to write His word. Luke, like Mark, was not a disciple of Jesus like the apostles Matthew and John. However, he was the apostle Paul's ministry companion (Acts 16:10; 20: 6; 28:22, Col. 4:14; Phil. 24, 2 Tim 4:11). If it is true that one could object to the apostolate of Paul because he was not the disciple of Jesus during his earthly ministry, but, it must be reminded that the resuscitated Jesus made his appearance to him and had chosen him as the apostle of the Gentiles (Acts 9: 1-18). The paternity of Luke being the writer of the two-volume sets Luke-Acts is unanimous among the church fathers such as Irenaeus, Jerome and Origen.

Date

It is likely that Luke's writing of Luke-Acts took place during Paul's imprisonment, that is, between 60-62 according to some authors, although some prefer the years of 70-80. There is internal evidence supporting the range 60-62. For instance, Jesus' prophecy about the destruction of Jerusalem. Then, in the book of Acts, which is the second volume, Luke did not mention the destruction of Jerusalem but ends the book with the imprisonment of Paul.

Major theme and target audience

It must be said that Luke has a peculiarity among the Gospels. It is the only book that begins with a prologue in which, not only does he clearly state the recipient (Theophilus) of this text, but also he explains his investigative approach and the reason why he undertakes his work: "that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught"(Luke 1: 4). This introduction (1: 1-4) places Luke in the category of Greco-Roman historiography, in the sense that he obligated himself to apply the methodological approach that would lead him to the conclusion of his facts. It also helps to understand that Luke's audience was not initially Jewish, but non-Jewish. The dominant theme of Acts is twofold: Salvation and the history of salvation in the work of the person of Jesus-Christ whose origin goes back to Adam.

The outline of Luke's gospel

- 1- Prelude to the ministry of Christ (1- 4: 1-13)
- 2- Christ's ministry in Galilee (4: 14- 9:50)
- 3- Christ's journey in Jerusalem (9: 51-19: 27)
- 4- The Passion Week (19:28 - 23:56)
- 5- The end of Christ's ministry (24: 1-53)