

Good Tidings of Great Joy

Studies in the Gospel of Luke

Two Messages from Gabriel

Luke 1:1-38
Lesson 1

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
January 4, 2015

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School

1. Old Testament (fall)

- Pentateuch & Job
- Israel Established
- Israel Divided

2. New Testament (winter/spring)

- Life of Christ
- The Church Established
- The Church Expanding

3. Doctrinal studies (summer)

- The Bible, God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit
- Man, Sin, Salvation
- Angels, Satan, Demons, the Church, Eschatology

Matthew also issued a written Gospel among the Hebrews in their own dialect, while Peter and Paul were preaching at Rome, and laying the foundations of the Church. After their departure, Mark, the disciple and interpreter of Peter, did also hand down to us in writing what had been preached by Peter. Luke also, the companion of Paul, recorded in a book the Gospel preached by him. Afterwards, John, the disciple of the Lord, who also had leaned upon His breast, did himself publish a Gospel during his residence at Ephesus in Asia.

IRENÆUS OF LYONS

The Gospel of Luke

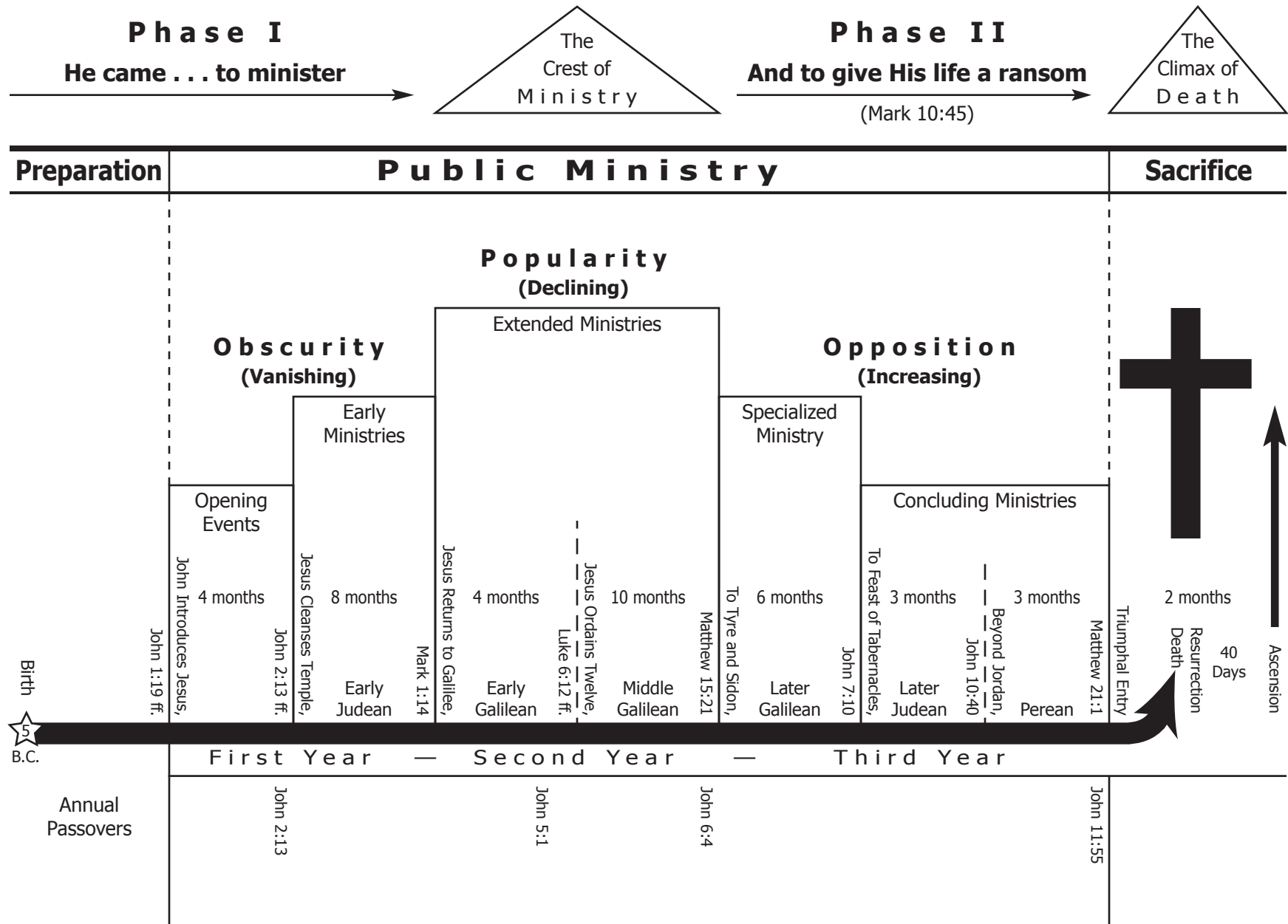
► Luke

- Physician (Colossians 4:14; Luke 8:43; Mark 5:26)
- Companion of Paul (Colossians 4:14; Philemon 24; 2 Timothy 4:11)
- “We” (Acts 16:10–17; 20:5–21:18; 27:1–28:16)

► Luke and Acts were written to Theophilus

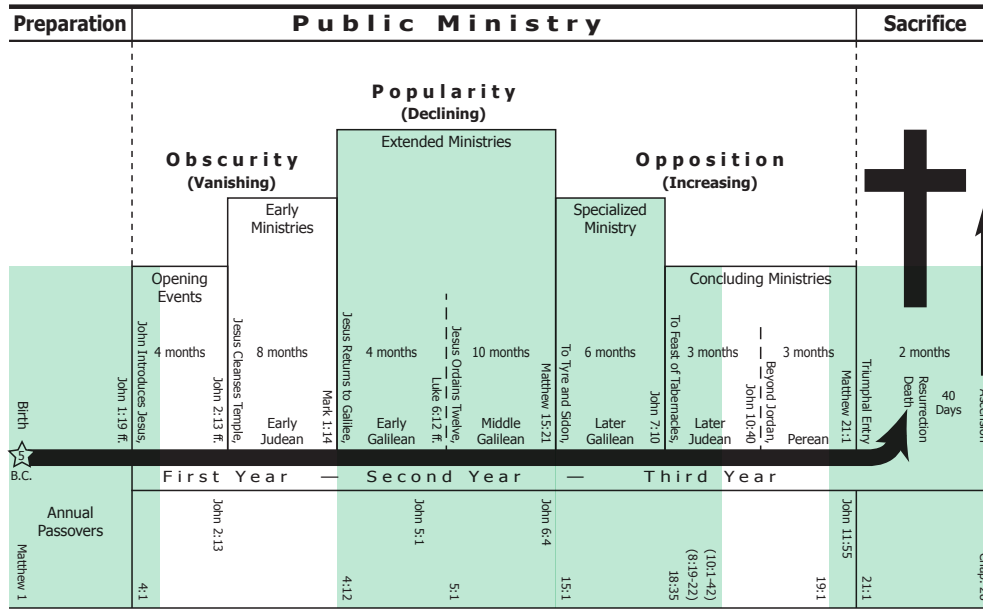
► The Synoptic Gospels

The Life of Christ

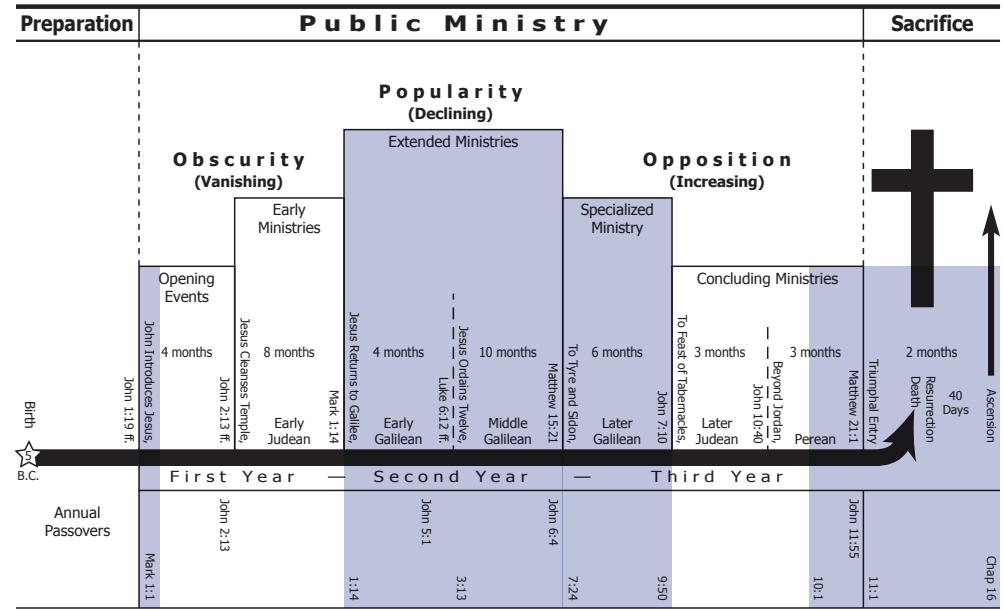


The Life of Christ

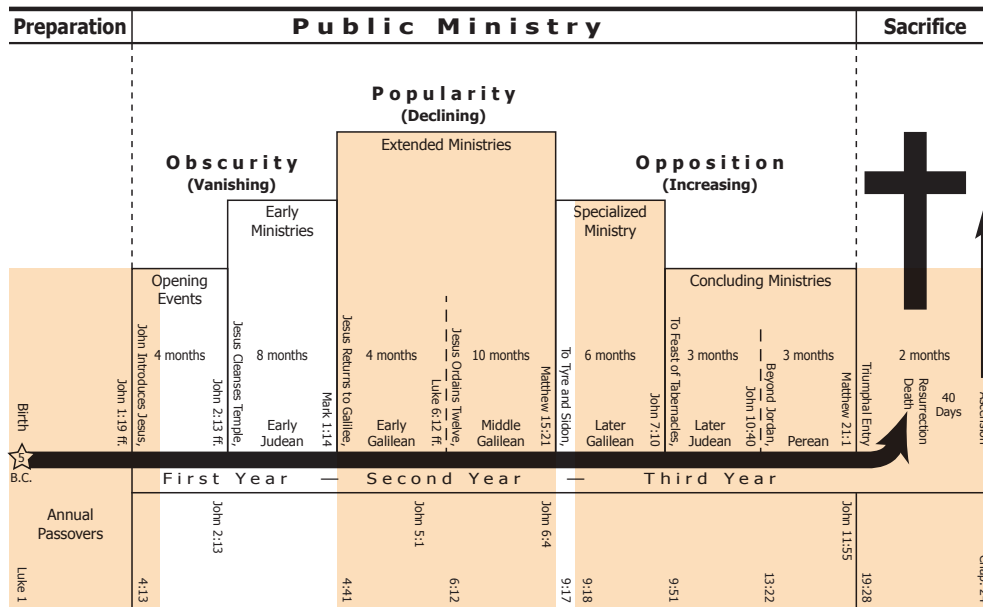
Showing coverage by Matthew (shaded)



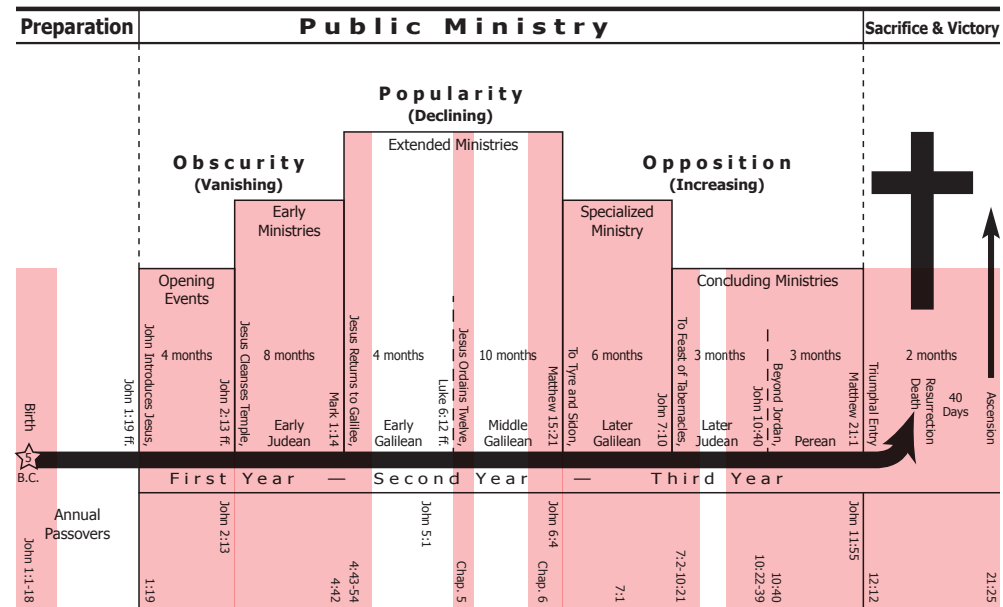
Showing coverage by Mark (shaded)



Showing coverage by Luke (shaded)



Showing coverage by John (shaded)



“We must expect to find in the third Gospel the counterpart of the first. As that is “A Treatise on the right of Jesus to the Messianic sovereignty of Israel,” this is “A Treatise on the right of the heathen to share in the Messianic kingdom founded by Jesus.”

FRÉDÉRIC LOUIS GODET

Outline of Luke

- ▶ Prologue (1:1-4)
- ▶ The Preparation for Jesus' Ministry (1:5-4:13)
- ▶ The Ministry in Galilee (4:14-9:50)
- ▶ The Judean/Perean Ministry (9:51-19:27)
- ▶ The Ministry in Jerusalem (19:28-21:38)
- ▶ The Consummation of His Work (22:1-24:53)

Preparation for Jesus' Ministry (1:5-4:13)

- ▶ The announcement of the birth of the forerunner, 1:5–25
- ▶ The announcement of the birth of Jesus, 1:26–38
- ▶ The visit of Mary to Elizabeth, 1:39–56
- ▶ The birth of the forerunner, 1:57–80
- ▶ The birth of Jesus, 2:1–20
- ▶ The circumcision and presentation of Jesus, 2:21–40
- ▶ The first journey of Jesus to Jerusalem, 2:41–52
- ▶ John and the baptism of Jesus, 3:1–22
- ▶ Genealogy of Jesus, 3:23–38
- ▶ Temptation of Jesus, 4:1–13

Lesson 1: Two Messages from Gabriel

- ▶ Introduction to the Gospel (1:1-4)
- ▶ Announcement of John's birth (1:5-25)
- ▶ Announcement of Jesus' birth (5:26-38)

Introduction Luke (1:1-4)

- ▶ An account of “things accomplished (fulfilled)”
- ▶ Eyewitnesses and servants of the Word (Gospel)
- ▶ Luke’s careful study to write in consecutive order
- ▶ Purpose: to know the exact truth of the Gospel

Message to Zacharias (1:5-25)

- ▶ Days of Herod the King the Great
 - Idumaeen or Edomite – family of Esau
 - Dark days in Israel – no new communication from God for 400+ years
- ▶ Priest of the division of Abijah
 - 24 divisions – served for 8 days every 6 months (2 Kings 11:9).
 - Wife also of priestly descent
 - Both righteous . . . blameless in all the commandments and requirements
 - Elizabeth was barren
 - Psalm 105:19 – “The Word of the LORD tested him.”

The Message of Gabriel (1:8-17)

► It happened . . .

- The incense had to be offered, according to the law (Ex. 30:7, 8) – twice daily
- Praying for the blessing of God (Num 6)
- Selected by lot to serve – Prov. 16:33

► An angel of the Lord – Gabriel

- Prior mission – to Daniel (Dan 8:15; 9:21)
- Zacharias troubled and gripped by fear
- Fear not

► A message of joy – personal blessing

- A son, John

Message to Zacharias (1:15-17)

► A message of great eternal significance

- Great in the sight of the Lord
- Personal holiness – devotion to God (Nazarite)
- Filled with the Holy Spirit
- Message of repentance – turn many back to the Lord their God
- Forerunner of Christ: Go before the Lord (Mal 3:1)
- Spirit and power of Elijah (John 1:21, 22; Matt. 16:14, 17:10, 27:47)
- Restore the hearts of the fathers back to the children (Malachi 4:6)
 - The Abrahamic Covenant (Genesis 18:17-19; Isaiah 29:22-23)
 - The children who will turn towards their fathers (Malachi), are the Jews of the time of the Messiah, the children of the obedient, who return to the wisdom of the pious patriarchs (Luke) Godet, F. L. (1881)
- Preparing for the Lord – refocus on the spiritual nature of the kingdom

The reception of the message (1:18-25)

- ▶ Zacharias doubts – How will I know?
- ▶ Reality of life v. promise of God
- ▶ Gabriel's Divine authority – Good news from the presence of God – the sin of unbelief
- ▶ Discipline – silence – and maybe deafness (v. 62)
- ▶ Finishing the work (1:21-23)
- ▶ Elizabeth's testimony (1:24-25)
 - Praised God's favor to her
 - Removed disgrace among men

Message to Mary (1:26-33)

► Gabriel sent to Nazareth

- Mary – virgin, engaged - House of David
- Greeting – Mary was very perplexed
- Fear not – favor with God
- Virgin conception - son to be named Jesus
- He will be great
- Son of the Most High
- Throne of David – by God (2 Sam. 7:12-13, 16; Isa. 9:6–7)
- Reign over house of Israel forever

The reception of the message (1:34-38)

- ▶ Mary's question – not doubt, but wonder
 - Holy Spirit to come upon Mary
 - Holy Child shall be born – He will be called the Son of God
 - A sign – Elizabeth's pregnancy
 - Nothing impossible with God (cf. 18:27)
 - Mary's faith
 - Bondslave of the Lord
 - Do to me according to your Word

The Beginning of God's Favor

- ▶ The exact truth
- ▶ Addressing the heart problem
- ▶ A skeptical priest and a virgin in Nazareth
- ▶ Son of God, Son of David, Eternal King
- ▶ The power of the Holy Spirit
- ▶ Nothing will be impossible with God