

Gospel of Luke

House Group Notes for Luke 4:31-44 based upon sermon series



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“THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL COME UPON YOU AND THE POWER OF THE MOST HIGH WILL OVERSHADOW YOU” LUKE 1: 35

What do the episodes with Jesus driving out a demon and healing Simon’s mother-in-law and many others say about who Jesus is and what God is doing?

Jesus has overcome Satan in the wilderness and then publically proclaimed that at least part of the good news he was bringing included overcoming evil and healing the sick. Jesus seems to say that this is a result of the in-breaking of the Kingdom of God. The important thing about these accounts is what they say

about who Jesus is and what God is doing.

Many people in the modern world today don’t believe in demons. They say that the man possessed by a demon was suffering from a medical condition that hadn’t been diagnosed in Jesus day. What do you think and why?

Whether you agree or disagree there is no doubt the man was dramatically ‘healed’ in one-way or another! Do you think that Luke intends this passage to be a ‘theology of

demons’ or to say something about Jesus authority?

So much of what Jesus does is a sign and a sign points to something else. If these exorcisms and healings are signs, what do you think they point to – what do they show us or give us a glimpse of?

Healings and driving out demons occurs many times in all the Gospels, and in Acts. They are closely associated with the coming of the Kingdom of God. In the Old Testament, when God speaks the Kingdom comes – His will is done (e.g. Genesis 1:1-26; Isaiah 55:11). In Luke, when Jesus speaks the Kingdom comes – His will is done – evil and sickness flee!

DISCUSS FURTHER

1. In verse 43 Jesus says he cannot stick around; he must preach the Good News to other towns. How hard do you think it was for him to leave the crowds and simply move on? How did his time in the wilderness prepare him?
2. Why do you think that healings seemed so frequent in the gospel accounts but are much more rare to day?

LUKE 4:31-44

Filled with the Holy Spirit, having overcome in the wilderness, Jesus public ministry begins in Nazareth and Capernaum.

³¹ Then he went down to Capernaum, a town in Galilee, and on the Sabbath he taught the people. ³² They were amazed at his teaching, because his words had authority. ³³ In the synagogue there was a man possessed by a demon, an impure spirit. He cried out at the top of his voice, ³⁴ “Go away! What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!” ³⁵ “Be quiet!” Jesus said sternly. “Come out of him!” Then the demon threw the man down before them all and came out without injuring him.

³⁶ All the people were amazed and said to each other, “What words these are! With authority and power he gives orders to impure spirits and they come out!” ³⁷ And the news about him spread throughout the surrounding area. **Jesus Heals Many**

³⁸ Jesus left the synagogue and went to the home of Simon. Now

Simon’s mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her. ³⁹ So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and began to wait on them. ⁴⁰ At sunset, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them. ⁴¹ Moreover, demons came out of many people, shouting, “You are the Son of God!” But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew he was the Messiah.

⁴² At daybreak, Jesus went out to a solitary place. The people were looking for him and when they came to where he was, they tried to keep him from leaving them. ⁴³ But he said, “I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent.” ⁴⁴ And he kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

When Gods speaks, the kingdom comes (Isaiah 55:11) ...so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

Peter heals a beggar in Acts 3
¹One day Peter and John were going up to the temple

at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. ²Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. ⁶Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.” ⁷Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man’s feet and ankles became strong. ⁸He jumped to his feet and began to walk.

A New Heaven and a New Earth in Revelation 21
¹Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,”... ²I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

