Litwak challenges previous studies of the use of the Old Testament in Luke-Acts as inadequate. In contrast to previous studies that consider only quotations or obvious echoes, he examines intentional echoes of the Old Testament at strategic points in Luke-Acts, as well as allusions and allusions and echoed traditions. Thus, this study’s database is larger. Previous studies generally argue that Luke’s use of the Scriptures is in the service of chronology. This leads to the exclusion of scriptural citations as an important dimension of Luke’s project. However, Luke’s use of the Old Testament has different emphases. Luke views exegesis as the overall purpose behind Luke’s use of the Old Testament, but he does not skip or avoid intertextual references that may lie outside an ecclesiological function. Whilst other studies contend that Luke uses the Old Testament according to a promise-fulfilment/pro-form-prophecy hermeneutic, Litwak argues that this fails to account for many of the intertextual references. Other studies also denote Luke’s intertextual references as “echoes” and suggest that every intertextual reference echoes a specific theme. Rather, the many intertextual references in strategic texts at the beginning, middle and end of Luke-Acts, and Luke’s use of the texts, are allowed to dictate the ‘themes’ to which they relate. 

Jervell challenges two widely held theories about Luke: that he was a representative of the institutional church, and that his writing was directed primarily at Gentile readers. He also presents much valuable insight into the growing pains of the early church, especially the relationship of the Jews to the Jewish Christians, and the relationship of both these groups to the Gentiles.

Litwak argues that this study does not require that every intertextual reference be subsumed under one theme, such as the ‘New Exodus’, but this study does require that every intertextual reference echoes a specific theme. Rather, the many intertextual references in strategic texts at the beginning, middle and end of Luke-Acts, and Luke’s use of the texts, are allowed to dictate the ‘themes’ to which they relate.


Holy Bible, New International Version - 1999

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This novel approach to the Life of Jesus is based on the conviction that the theme of Luke's gospel is the compassion of Jesus. This compassion is expressed through the various stories and parables that Luke tells about Jesus, as well as through Jesus' own words and actions. Luke's compassion is seen as a reflection of the compassion of God, who is able to love even those who are most in need. This compassionate understanding of Jesus is important because it helps us to see Jesus in a new light, and to understand his message and mission in a new way. Luke's compassionate theology is important because it helps us to see the importance of compassion in our own lives. Compassion is something that we can all do, and that we can all benefit from. By following Jesus' example, we can learn to be more compassionate, and to be better able to love others as Jesus loved us.

Luke (Understanding the Bible Commentary Series)


The Understanding the Bible Commentary Series helps readers navigate the strange and sometimes intimidating literary terrain of the Bible. These accessible volumes contribute to the task of interpretation using the full range of critical methodologies and practices, yet they do so as people of faith who hold the text in the highest regard. Pastors, teachers, and lay people alike will cherish the truth found in this commentary series.

Luke (Understanding the Bible Commentary Series) - Craig A. Evans - 2011-08-01

Analyzes the hostile portrayal of the Jews in Luke-Acts and points to its influence in the spread of anti-Jewish sentiment among Christians. The contributions tackle the task of interpreting the full range of critical methodologies and practices, yet they do so as people of faith who hold the text in the highest regard. Pastors, teachers, and lay people alike will cherish the truth found in this commentary series.


"His father and mother were amazed at what was being said about Him." Luke 2:33 "Everyone was amazed at what He was doing." Luke 9:43 "He went home, astonished by their encounter, from the shepherds at the nativity to the disciples at the empty tomb. With careful attention to detail, Michael Card embarks on an imaginative journey through the Gospel of Luke. He introduces us to Luke the historian and imagines his life as a Gentile, a doctor, and a sage. Card explores the life of Jesus, compelling this account of this dynamic rabbi who astounded his hearers with parables and paradoxes. What might Luke have experienced as he interviewed eyewitnesses of Jesus? What leads Luke to focus on the marginalized and the unlikely? Why does Luke decide to include certain details in the other Gospel writers omit? Join Michael Card in the work of opening heart and mind to the "Gospel of Amazement."


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Be Compassionate (Luke 1-13) - Warren W. Wiersbe - 2010-06-01

The world is still a battleground between the people of God and the people of the world. The world is even more divided today than it was in Jesus' day. In many ways, the world is growing more hostile towards Christians. It is important for Christians to be compassionate, and to work through Jesus to usher in a new era of promise and Spirit-enablement so that the people of God can be God's people even in the midst of a hostile world. It is a message the church still needs today.

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Luke the Historian of Israel's Legacy, Theologian of Israel's 'Christ' - David Ljej Jeffrey - 2015-04-28


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The publication of the King James version of the Bible, translated between 1603 and 1611, coincided with an extraordinary flowering of English literature and is universally acknowledged as the most influential version of the Bible in English language literature in history. Now, world-class literary writers introduce the book of the King James New Testament in a series of intimately written engagements with the spirituality and the language of the text as a way of bringing the Bible alive as a stunning work of literature and reminding us of its overwhelming contemporary relevance. The book of Luke has been described as one of the most beautiful books ever written, and Luke: The Good News of God’s Mercy brings this beauty to life for teens as it provides students with a clear explanation of Biblical text, opportunities for prayer, and a means to enter into conversation with God.


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The Passion According to Luke is a new commentary on the Passion Narrative, and to Luke’s particular version of it. The book begins where previous studies leave off, for it goes beyond traditional questions of source and historicity and treats the Lukan Passion Narrative from the standpoint of redaction criticism. Neyrey offers a fresh literary analysis of the text, along with significant thematic and theological insights. The book is ideal for classroom use and for church study groups. The Greek text of Luke’s Passion narratives is provided for students who want to study the language of the text as well as for teachers who are not skilled in Greek. The book is designed to be read as a whole project, Luke-Acts. Contemporary interpretation of Luke demands study of the way Lukan structures and themes are continued and confirmed in Acts, which holds true especially for the Passion Narrative. Luke brings the story of Jesus into harmony with the story of his church.

Luke - Kevin Perrotta - 2004-09

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pastoral sensitivity and clarity of expression to make Brendan Byrne a genial host at the scriptural banquet he has so splendidly provided. In this year of Jubilee there could not be a better book to read or a better gift to share. Tony Kelly, C.S.S.R. Australian Catholic University/It is a very readable and concise commentary on the whole Gospel, aimed at the general reader. Byrne helps us to experience Jesus' life and ministry as a visitation by God that continually poses the question, How will this guest be received? Will we accept or reject him? Church

The Hospitality of God: Brendan J. Byrne - 2000


Luke and the Restoration of Israel - David Evans - 1995-12-01

Ravens argues that Luke's belief leads him to present Christology and atonement in ways that cohere with Jewish hopes and to correct apparently anti-Jewish elements in Paul's letters and Matthew's Gospel. This theme also determines his account of the gentile mission and his pastoral concern for unity. Luke's real passion was in setting down an orderly account that detailed the birth, life, death, ministry, and resurrection of Jesus. This was a task for which Luke was well suited, for he was both a thoughtful man of science and a great observer of people. Luke thus took great care in relating the information he collected, but he also emphasized the care that Jesus, as the Great Physician, intended to people everywhere-both Jewish and Gentile alike. Luke shows the high value Jesus places on down to earth as a sacrifice for the sins of every person who will receive Him. The Jeremiah Bible Study Series captures Dr. David Jeremiah's forty-plus years of commitment to teaching the Word of God. In each study, he will help you understand what the Bible says, what it meant to the people at the time it was written, and what it means to you today. Along the way, you will gain insights into the text, identify key stories and themes, and be challenged to apply the truth you find in your life.


Jesus in the Great Physician. According to the apostle Paul, Luke was a "beloved physician" who traveled with him on several of his missionary journeys. However, Luke's real passion was in setting down an orderly account that detailed the birth, life, death, ministry, and resurrection of Jesus. This was a task for which Luke was well suited, for he was both a thoughtful man of science and a great observer of people. Luke thus took great care in relating the information he collected, but he also emphasized the care that Jesus, as the Great Physician, intended to people everywhere-both Jewish and Gentile alike. Luke shows the high value Jesus places on down to earth as a sacrifice for the sins of every person who will receive Him. The Jeremiah Bible Study Series captures Dr. David Jeremiah's forty-plus years of commitment to teaching the Word of God. In each study, he will help you understand what the Bible says, what it meant to the people at the time it was written, and what it means to you today. Along the way, you will gain insights into the text, identify key stories and themes, and be challenged to apply the truth you find in your life.


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