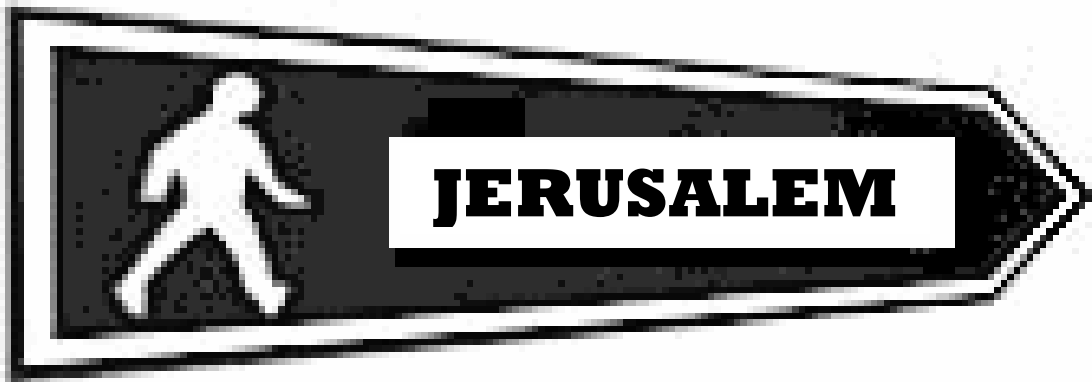


Luke

9:51 – 19:44



The Travel Narrative

Luke

INTEGRATED BIBLE STUDY GUIDE

Luke 9:51–19:44, *The Travel Narrative*

How to get best value out of these studies...

Welcome to a new series of New Testament studies on the gospel of Luke.

If you're using these Guides in a Small Group, it is vital that you have done preparatory work *before* you get to your meeting. This will be of great benefit not only to you, but to the other members of your group.

If you're doing these studies individually, make sure you let someone know you are doing so, and arrange a time to meet with them when you've finished (or even before) to let them know how your life is being changed by God's Word.

Always surround your time looking into God's Word with **prayer**, asking God to change your heart and life so that you – with God's people – might become more and more like our Lord Jesus Christ.

Introduction to the 'Travel Narrative'

Luke 9:51 – 19:44 is often called the 'Travel Narrative'. Not a very creative title but accurate in description. It is a section that plots the journey of Jesus to Jerusalem. It doesn't plot the journey geographically or chronologically. Rather it picks up on the driving purpose of God's plan that Jesus would go to Jerusalem and die.

In Luke 9:51 we read that 'As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem'. There is a lot of tension as Jesus heads to Jerusalem.

On the journey various people gather around Jesus. There are the Disciples, Pharisees, Scribes, Tax Collectors, sinners etc.

In the studies that follow we have especially selected passages where Jesus talks about the challenge of discipleship. Jesus highlights the cost and opposition associated with being a follower. He also highlights the joy for those who do come along on the journey.

Study 1 **You Call Him Lord**

Luke 9:51-62

Getting Started

Say you ran into an old school friend you hadn't seen for years. In the course of the conversation it came out that you went to church. What if your friend said they'd like to come along on Sunday because they thought 'A bit of religion/faith is quite good for you'. How would you respond?

A Bit of Background

Read Luke 9:18–27

1. What has caused people to have such a high view of who Jesus is?
2. What are the disciples thinking the 'Christ of God' will do? How does Jesus' explanation in v22 cut across their expectations?
3. What strikes you as the most challenging aspect of what Jesus says in v23–27?

Study 2 **Watch Out For Hypocrisy**

Luke 11:37–12:3

Getting Started

If you had the chance to choose someone famous from history to invite to dinner, would you choose Jesus? What would incline you to do so? Can you think of reasons why you might not?

Getting into the Text

Read Luke 11:37–12:3

1. What is the Pharisee concerned about in vs. 37–38?
2. Why does Jesus react so strongly? Is He defensive, embarrassed or something else?
3. What is the point of v41?

4. Look at the 6 'woes' of vv. 42–52 and fill in the table below:

| Verse | Woe to who? | What is the point? | What is the response? |
|-------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 42 | | | |
| 43 | | | |
| 44 | | | |
| 46 | | | |
| 47-51 | | | |
| 52 | | | |

5. The Pharisees and teachers of the law respond in verses 53–54. In what other ways could they have responded?

6. Are the disciples to be on their guard against the Pharisees? (Look at 12:1)

7. What is the antidote to hypocrisy?

Implications/Application

8. How would you define hypocrisy?

9. In our church context when are we tempted to 'play the hypocrite'?

10. What practical steps can we take to avoid the slide into hypocrisy?
How does 12:2-3 help?

11. Is there an area of hypocrisy that you are aware of that you need to repent of?

4. Why is the manager commended by his master? (v8)

5. What do you understand the punch line in v9 to mean?

The Rich Man and Lazarus

6. Do we have any idea why the beggar, Lazarus, winds up at Abraham's side?

7. What about the rich man – why is he in hell?

8. Why hasn't the rich man believed?

9. What is the point about Moses and the Prophets in v31?

10. The Law and the Prophets are mentioned back in v16 (cf. v31, Moses and the Prophets). How does the way the rich man handle his money and divorce/adultery in v18 tie together?

Study 4 Luke 18:9 - 14

Getting Started

In what areas of life are you tempted to compare yourself with other people (for good or ill)? E.g. money, looks, intelligence or education.

When do you find yourself doing spiritual comparisons? Is it with non Christians? (E.g. critical of their choices, sin or lack of integrated world view etc.) OR With other Christians? (E.g. Not as serious about following Christ or not as well taught etc.)

Getting into the Text

Read Luke 18:9-14

1. Why does Jesus tell the parable? (v9)
2. After being a Christian for a while we often react negatively when we hear the title 'Pharisee' (or even after having just read through Luke's gospel once!). Why? How would the original hearers have responded to Jesus' criticisms of the Pharisees?
3. How should we think about tax collectors (in context of Luke's gospel)?

4. Is the Pharisee serious about what he believes?

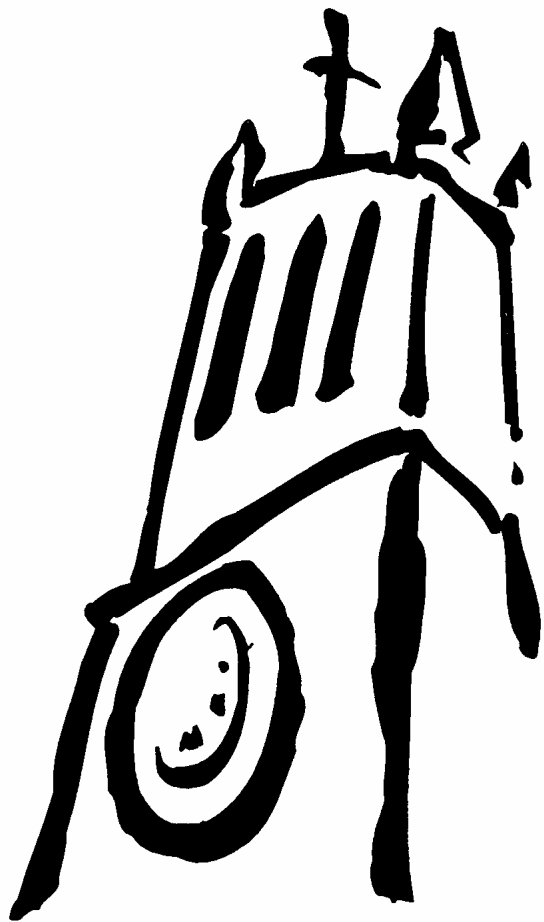
5. Why is the tax collector justified and not the Pharisee? (v14)

6. Why does the teaching in v15–17 follow straight after this parable?

Application/Implication

7. Where does spiritual pride come from?

Notes



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