



The unfolding of your words gives light.

To Seek and to Save

An Exposition of the Gospel of Luke

³⁸Then He got up and *left* the synagogue, and entered Simon's home^a. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Him to help her^b. ³⁹And standing over her, He rebuked the fever, and it left her^c; and she immediately got up and waited on them^d.

⁴⁰While the sun was setting, all those who had any *who were* sick with various diseases brought them to Him^e; and laying His hands on each one of them, He was healing them^f.

⁴¹Demons also were coming out of many, shouting, "You are the Son of God^g!" But rebuking them, He would not allow them to speak, because they knew Him to be the Christ^h.

^a 4:38 **He got up and left the synagogue, and entered Simon's home.** Peter's house (also where his brother Andrew lived, Mark 1:29) is a likely location for several events in Capernaum during Jesus' earthly ministry, although it is usually not named. Mark mentions Jesus was "at home" when four men brought a paralytic to Jesus through a hole in the roof (2:1). He was "in the house" when He used a child (Peter's?) to illustrate greatness in His kingdom (9:33).

^b 4:38 **Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Him to help her.** Dr. Luke points out that this was a high fever. Deadly infections are still a fearsome prospect in our day, how much more in first century Israel. They asked Jesus to help. Where else do you run when Jesus is near?

^c 4:39 **standing over her, He rebuked the fever, and it left her.** The Lord Jesus had a ministry of rebuke.

- He rebuked the wind (Matthew 8:26; Mark 4:39; Luke 8:24).
- He rebuked Satan (Matthew 17:18).
- He rebuked demons (Mark 1:25; 3:12; 9:25; Luke 4:35; 4:41; 9:42).
- He rebuked Peter (Mark 8:33).
- He rebuked a fever (here).
- He rebuked James and John (Luke 9:55).

It should not be considered odd to rebuke something inanimate. Jesus spoke woe upon cities when the people of those cities could not hear (Matthew 23:37; Luke 10:13-15). Paul speaks to "death" (1 Corinthians 15:55).

^d 4:39 **she immediately got up and waited on them.** Luke wants us to know how fully recovered she was. We also learn that serving is the right response to the work of God. If the strength you have is a gift from Him can you refuse to use it for His glory?

^e 4:40 **While the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to Him.** The Sabbath was over and the people began their first-day-of-the-week business. The rabbis only allowed people to walk a limited distance on the Sabbath.

^f 4:40 **laying His hands on each one of them, He was healing them.** Jesus varied His methods of healing as well as the timing. Peter's mother-in-law was healed with a word while Jesus was present. A centurion's servant was healed with a word while Jesus was not present (Luke 7:1-10). The people in Capernaum were healed by Jesus' hands. One woman merely touched His garment (Luke 8:48). Mark tells the story of a healing that took place gradually after Jesus applied spittle and mud to a man's eyes (Mark 8:22-25).

^g 4:41 **Demons also were coming out of many, shouting, "You are the Son of God!"** The demon in the Capernaum synagogue (4:34) also recognized his Creator.

^h 4:41 **rebuking them, He would not allow them to speak, because they knew Him to be the Christ.** One might wonder why Jesus would wish to keep this information quiet. Even with the most truthful words coming from their mouths, Jesus would not allow a demon to teach the people.

The Gospel of Luke
Steven Svendsen, Sr.

©Rice Lake Baptist Church, 104 East Barker Street, Rice Lake, Wisconsin, 54868 – <http://www.ricelakebaptist.org> – 715.234.1966

Permissions: You are permitted and encouraged to reproduce and distribute this material in any format provided that you do not alter the wording in any way and that you do not charge a fee beyond the cost of reproduction.

Scripture quotations taken from the New American Standard Bible®, Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.



The unfolding of your words gives light.

⁴²When day came, Jesus left and went to a secluded place^a; and the crowds were searching for Him, and came to Him and tried to keep Him from going away from them^b. ⁴³But He said to them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, for I was sent for this purpose^c."
⁴⁴So He kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea^{d,e}.

^a **4:42 When day came, Jesus left and went to a secluded place.** Mark says Jesus did this early in the morning so He could pray (Mark 1:35). This term "secluded place" could be translated "desert place." The times when Jesus went to such a place He was seeking rest, refuge or prayer.

Now when Jesus heard about John, He withdrew from there in a boat to a secluded place by Himself; and when the people heard of this, they followed Him on foot from the cities. Matthew 14:13

In the early morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house, and went away to a secluded place, and was praying there. Mark 1:35

But he went out and began to proclaim it freely and to spread the news around, to such an extent that Jesus could no longer publicly enter a city, but stayed out in unpopulated areas; and they were coming to Him from everywhere. Mark 1:45

And He said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a secluded place and rest a while." (For there were many people coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat.) They went away in the boat to a secluded place by themselves. Mark 6:31-32

Now the day was ending, and the twelve came and said to Him, "Send the crowd away, that they may go into the surrounding villages and countryside and find lodging and get something to eat; for here we are in a desolate place." Luke 9:12

^b **4:42 the crowds were searching for Him, and came to Him and tried to keep Him from going away from them.** The people were less interested in the rule of Jesus over the earth than they were interested in local prosperity. The same thing happened after Jesus fed the multitudes (John 6:15).

^c **4:43 "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, for I was sent for this purpose."** Signs and wonders were not the main attraction of Jesus' ministry. He used them to set the stage for His message. Jesus was sent to make more than temporal improvements. John's gospel illustrates this as clearly as any. For instance:

- In John 4 He told a woman He had never met about her past and then proceeded to call her to worship the God who transcends geography.
- In John 5 He healed a man on the Sabbath and then taught the religious leaders that His work was the Father's work—even on the Sabbath.
- In John 6 He fed the multitudes and the next day preached His "I am the bread of life" sermon.
- In John 9 He healed a man born blind and then told the religious leaders that they were blind.
- In John 11 He raised Lazarus from the dead and taught, "I am the resurrection and the life."

^d **4:44 He kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.** This appears to take Jesus out of the primary area of His ministry in Galilee. There is a textual difference here. Some manuscripts say Jesus preached more "in the synagogues of Galilee," which seems to better fit His miracle on the lake in the next verses. While "Judea" is likely the correct reading, it may refer to something more than the area around Jerusalem. A marginal note in the NASB reads "i.e. the country of the Jews (including Galilee)."

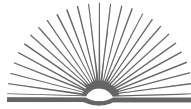
^e **4:38-44 Everything you have is a gift from God. Your physical strength, your financial resources, your time, your spouse, your parents, your children, your talents and even your church family**

The Gospel of Luke
Steven Svendsen, Sr.

©Rice Lake Baptist Church, 104 East Barker Street, Rice Lake, Wisconsin, 54868 – <http://www.ricelakebaptist.org> – 715.234.1966

Permissions: You are permitted and encouraged to reproduce and distribute this material in any format provided that you do not alter the wording in any way and that you do not charge a fee beyond the cost of reproduction.

Scripture quotations taken from the New American Standard Bible®, Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.



The unfolding of your words gives light.

have been gifted to you by a sovereign God. If God really rules as King and gives what he wants to whomever He wants, the question you should ask is: “How should I respond to this rule?”

The rebellion in God’s kingdom that started in the Garden of Eden affected the world in many ways. People became prone to physical weakness and death, Satan’s angels cavorted among his trophies. The bondage of sin crept into every corner of the human experience. Certainly the rescue from that rebellion came because of the cross, but the ministry of Jesus is the model for the people He rescued. Here are some priorities Jesus displayed that tell us how to respond to His gifts and His rule:

1. Jesus prioritized public goodness. He may not have give you the gift of healing that Jesus and the apostles had, but He has placed you where you can show compassion. The authority to heal and cast out demons pointed to Jesus’ identity, but it also pointed to His compassion. Peter characterized Jesus’ ministry, saying, “He went about doing good” (Acts 10:38). Some fundamentalists and conservative evangelicals are afraid that compassion ministries are somehow a replacement for the gospel. Jesus showed that they are the way we live out the gospel.
2. Jesus prioritized public preaching. The King has commissioned you to carry a message to the people who are living in His world and breathing His air. It is not your message but His. This is not necessarily the public preaching that happens in a church service (although we should also make that a priority). This is about communicating the gospel outside the church. Jesus did not always present a three-point outline, but He did use everyday life to point men to their need to realign their loyalties.
3. Jesus prioritized private praying. Stressful times are a gift to remind you that you are not self-sufficient. Pride and self-sufficiency make us presume we can enter each day and each endeavor in our own strength and wisdom. If Jesus saw the necessity to entrust Himself to the Father should we do less? This is not to diminish the importance of public praying. It is to say that our relationship with God is personal as well as corporate.

The Gospel of Luke
Steven Svendsen, Sr.

©Rice Lake Baptist Church, 104 East Barker Street, Rice Lake, Wisconsin, 54868 – <http://www.ricelakebaptist.org> – 715.234.1966

Permissions: You are permitted and encouraged to reproduce and distribute this material in any format provided that you do not alter the wording in any way and that you do not charge a fee beyond the cost of reproduction.

Scripture quotations taken from the New American Standard Bible®, Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.