

CONTENTS

Introduction	7
Supplementary notes	15
Abbreviations and sigla	17
Glossary of technical terms	19
A QUICK GLANCE AT LUKE’S GOSPEL AS A WHOLE	23
THE PROLOGUE OF THE GOSPEL OF LUKE (1,1-4)	25
PART ONE	
The coming of Christ prepared by the messengers of the Lord	
Section A (1,5– 4,13)	31
1. THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BIRTH OF JOHN (Sequence A1: 1,5-25) .	33
1. Introduction and conclusion (1,5-7; 23-25)	34
2. The priest and the people (1,8-12; 19-22)	36
3. The incredulity of Zechariah (1,13-14.18)	38
4. The prophecy (1,15-17)	39
5. THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BIRTH OF JOHN (1,5-25)	42
2. THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS (Sequence A2: 1,26-56)	49
1. Introduction (1,26-27)	51
2. The Annunciation to Mary (1,28-38)	52
3. The Visitation (1,39-45)	56
4. The canticle of Mary (1,46-55)	59
5. Conclusion (1,56)	63
6. <i>THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS</i> (1,26-56)	64
3. THE BIRTH OF JOHN (Sequence A3: 1,57-80)	67
1. The birth of the child (1,57-58)	68
2. The circumcision of John and Zechariah (1,59-64)	69
3. Question about the child (1,65-66)	71
4. The blessing of God and John (1,67-79)	71
5. The growth of the child (1,80)	83
6. <i>THE BIRTH OF JOHN</i> (1,57-80)	84

4. THE BIRTH OF JESUS (Sequence A4: 2,1-20)	87
1. The birth of the son of David in Bethlehem (2,1-7)	90
2. The announcement of the angels to the shepherds (2,8-14)	92
3. The visit of the shepherds to the child of Bethlehem (2,15-20)	94
4. <i>THE BIRTH OF JESUS</i> (2,1-20)	96
5. JESUS IS CONSECRATED TO THE LORD (Sequence A5: 2,21-40)	105
1. Circumcision and Presentation of Jesus at the Temple (2,21-24)	107
2. The prophet Simeon receives the consolation of Israel (2,25-28a) ...	108
3. The double blessing of the prophet (2,28b-35)	110
4. The prophetess Anna receives the redemption of Jerusalem (2,36-38)	112
5. Return and growth of Jesus at Nazareth (2,39-40)	113
6. <i>JESUS IS CONSECRATED TO THE LORD</i> (2,21-40)	116
6. JESUS CONSECRATES HIMSELF TO HIS FATHER (Sequence A6: 2,41-52)	119
7. JOHN PREPARES THE COMING OF CHRIST (Sequence A7: 3,1-20)	123
1. God sends John to preach (3,1-3)	124
2. John announces to the crowds the coming of God's judgment (3,4-9)	126
3. John calls on everyone to practice justice (3,10-14)	131
4. John announces the coming of Christ's judgment (3,15-17)	133
5. Herod prevents John from evangelizing (3,18-20)	135
6. <i>JOHN PREPARES THE COMING OF CHRIST</i> (3,1-20)	136
8. JESUS PREPARES FOR HIS COMING (Sequence A8: 3,21– 4,13)	139
1. Jesus is revealed as Son by God at the Jordan (3,21-22)	140
2. Jesus, son of Joseph and Son of God (3,23-38)	142
3. Jesus tempted as Son by the devil in the desert (4,1-13)	146
4. <i>JESUS PREPARES FOR HIS COMING</i> (3,21– 4,13)	152
9. THE COMING OF CHRIST PREPARED BY THE MESSENGERS OF GOD	
Section A: Lc 1,5– 4,13	157
A. Composition of the section	157
1. Symmetry of the sequences two by two	157
2. Overall construction	166
B. Interpretation	171
PART TWO	
Jesus sets up the community of his disciples in Galilee	
Section B (Luke 4,14–9,50)	177

10. JESUS' VISIT AT NAZARETH (Sequence B1: 4,14-30)	180
11. JESUS' DAY AT CAPERNAUM (Sequence B2: 4,31-44)	191
1. Jesus puts an end the reign of the devil (4,31-37)	192
2. Jesus heals Simon's mother-in-law (4,38-39)	193
3. Jesus brings the reign of God (4,40-44)	195
4. <i>JESUS' DAY AT CAPERNAUM</i> (4,31-44)	196
12. THE CALL OF SIMON PETER (Sequence B3: 5,1-16)	201
1. Introduction: Jesus teaches the crowds (5,1-3)	202
2. The miraculous draught of fish and the confession of Simon Peter (5,4-11)	203
3. The confession of a leper and his purification (5,12-14)	205
4. Conclusion: the crowds listen to and are healed by Jesus (5,15-16)	207
5. <i>THE CALL OF SIMON PETER</i> (5,1-16)	208
13. THE MASTERS OF THE LAW AND THE BRIDEGROOM OF THE NEW COVENANT (Sequence B4: 5,17-6,11)	213
1. Jesus heals a man with paralyzed legs (5,17-26)	214
2. Jesus, the Physician and the Bridegroom (5,27-35)	218
3. The parable of the old and of the new (5,36-39)	222
4. Jesus, King and Lord of the Sabbath (6,1-5)	223
5. Jesus heals a man with a paralyzed right hand (6,6-11)	225
6. <i>THE MASTERS OF THE LAW AND THE BRIDEGROOM OF THE NEW COVENANT</i> (5,17-6,11)	228
14. THE GIFT OF FILIATION (Sequence B5: 6,12-7,17)	237
A. Everyone is called (6,12-38)	238
1. Jesus chooses the Twelve to send them to all human beings (6,12-19)	238
2. Happy and unhappy (6,20-26)	240
3. Jesus calls upon all the disciples to love all human beings (6,27-38)	243
4. <i>Everyone is called</i> (6,12-38)	248
B. The tree is known by its fruits (6,39-49)	250
C. God loves his people (7,1-17)	255
1. Jesus heals the boy of the pagan centurion (7,2-10)	255
2. Jesus raises the son of the Jewish widow (7,11-16)	258
3. <i>God loves his people</i> (7,1-17)	260
D. <i>THE GIFT OF FILIATION</i> (6,12-7,17)	262

15. JOHN THE BAPTIST AND THE BRIDE	
OF THE NEW COVENANT (Sequence B6: 7,18-50)	267
1. Jesus and John the Baptist (7,18-28)	268
2. This generation before John and before Jesus (7,29-35)	271
3. Jesus and Simon the Pharisee (7,36-50)	272
4. <i>JOHN THE BAPTIST AND THE SPOUSE</i>	
OF THE NEW COVENANT (7,18-50)	278
16. THE GIFT OF FERTILITY (Sequence B7: 8,1-56)	285
A. To whom is it given to understand? (8,1-18)	286
1. The kingdom of God comes with Jesus (8,1-3)	286
2. The parable of the sown field (8,4-15)	287
3. The light of the revelation is offered (8,16-18)	290
4. <i>To whom is it given to understand?</i> (8,1-18)	295
B. The mother and the brothers of Jesus (8,19-21)	299
C. Jesus does the works of God (8,22-56)	300
1. The disciples saved from the storm (8,22-26)	300
2. Freeing the man possessed by demons at Gerasa (8,27-39)	302
3. Two women saved from barrenness (8,40-56)	305
4. <i>Jesus does the works of God</i> (8,22-56)	308
D. <i>THE GIFT OF FERTILITY</i> (8,1-56)	312
17. THE DISCIPLES CALLED UPON TO DO WHAT JESUS DOES	
(Sequence B8: 9,1-50)	319
A. The mission of the Twelve (9,1-17).....	320
1. Going off on mission, the Twelve teach and heal (9,1-6)	320
2. Herod wonders who Jesus is (9,7-9)	322
3. Returning from mission, the disciples feed the crowd (9,10-17) ..	324
4. <i>The mission of the Twelve</i> (9,1-17)	327
B. The identity of Jesus and of his disciples (9,18-36)	329
1. The confession of Peter (9,18-22)	329
2. The discourse for all (9,23-27)	332
3. The confession of the Father (9,28-36)	335
4. <i>The identity of Jesus and of his disciples</i> (9,18-36)	338
C. Who then is the greatest? (9,37-50)	342
1. Jesus heals a possessed man (9,37-43a)	342
2. The disciples do not understand who Jesus is (9,43b-45)	344
3. Jesus reproves his disciples (9,46-50)	345
4. <i>Who then is the greatest?</i> (9,37-50)	346
D. <i>THE DISCIPLES CALLED UPON TO DO WHAT JESUS DOES</i> (9,1-50)	349

18. JESUS FORMS THE COMMUNITY OF HIS DISCIPLES IN GALILEE	
Section B: Luke 4,14–9,50	355
1. The extreme sub-sections (4,14–5,16; 9,1-50)	356
2. The central sub-section (5,17–8,56)	366
3. The section as a whole (4,14–9,50)	378
 PART THREE	
Jesus leads the community of his disciples to Jerusalem	
Section C: Luke 9,51–21,38	399
 19. DEPARTURE FOR THE MISSION (Sequence C1: 9,51–10,42)	401
A. How the envoys are received (9,51–10,16)	402
1. Jesus refuses to curse the Samaritans who do not want to receive him (9,51-56)	402
2. Following Jesus to announce the kingdom of God (9,57–10,11) ..	404
3. Jesus curses the towns of Galilee (10,12-16)	408
4. <i>How the envoys are received</i> (9,51–10,16)	410
B. Jesus gives his disciples power over the enemy (10,17-20)	413
C. Only the son inherits (10,21-42)	415
1. Jesus blesses his Father and his disciples (10,21-24)	415
2. Loving the neighbour to inherit eternal life (10,25-37)	418
3. Jesus blesses Mary who receives him (10,38-42)	423
4. <i>Only the son inherits</i> (10,21-42)	424
D. <i>DEPARTURE FOR THE MISSION</i> (9,51–10,42)	430
 20. JESUS, A CONTESTED SIGN, EXERCIZES JUDGEMENT	
(Sequence C2: 11,1-54)	437
1. Jesus gives his prayer and the Holy Spirit (11,1-13)	438
2. His adversaries refuse the defeat of the evil spirit (11,14-26)	443
3. «Happy are those who hear the Word of God and who keep it!» (11,27-28)	450
4. Jesus gives the light to those who enter (11,29-36)	451
5. His adversaries refuse the knowledge for themselves and for others (11,37-54)	456
6. <i>JESUS, A CONTESTED SIGN, EXERCIZES JUDGEMENT</i> (11,1-54)	463
 21. THE DISCIPLE JUDGES WITH THE END IN VIEW	
(Sequence C3: 12,1–13,21)	471
A. The hidden bad leaven will be revealed (12,1-3)	472
B. The only thing worthwhile (12,4-34)	473
1. It is God alone that one must fear (12,4-12)	473
2. To bear fruit for God (12,13-21)	475

3. It is the kingdom of God of which one must take care (12,22-34)	477
4. <i>The only thing worthwhile</i> (12,4-34)	479
C. Foreseeing the judgement (12,35-59)	481
1. To be ready for the Lord's return (12,35-46)	481
2. The moment of division (12,47-53)	486
3. To be able to discern the signs of the times (12,54-59)	488
4. <i>Foreseeing the judgement</i> (12,35-59)	490
D. Urgency of conversion (13,1-16)	492
1. It is today that we must be converted (13,1-5)	492
2. Bearing fruit this year (13,6-9)	493
3. It is today that we must be cured (13,10-16)	495
4. <i>Urgency of conversion</i> (13,1-16)	497
E. The hidden good leaven will be revealed (13,17-21)	499
F. <i>THE DISCIPLE JUDGES WITH THE END IN MIND</i> (12,1-13,21)	503
22. «WHOEVER EXALTS HIMSELF WILL BE HUMBLLED AND HE WHO HUMBLES HIMSELF WILL BE EXALTED» (Sequence C4: 13,22-14,35)	511
A. The first will be last and the last will be first (13,22-14,6)	512
1. Who will enter and sit down in the kingdom of God? (13,22-30)	512
2. Jesus will go all the way (13,31-14,6)	515
3. <i>The first will be last and the last will be first</i> (13,22-14,6)	518
B. The parable of the guests and the host (14,7-14)	520
C. Who will share bread and salt with Jesus? (14,15-35)	523
1. «Who will eat bread in the kingdom of God?» (14,15-24)	524
2. The disciple will go all the way (14,25-35)	528
3. Who will share bread and salt with Jesus? (14,15-35)	530
D. «WHOEVER EXALTS HIMSELF WILL BE HUMBLLED AND HE WHO HUMBLES HIMSELF WILL BE EXALTED» (13,22-14,35)	532
23. «WHAT IS EXALTED AMONG MEN IS AN ABOMINATION IN THE SIGHT OF GOD» (Sequence C5: 15,1-17,10)	539
A. Recognizing oneself as a sinner and forgiving (15,1-32)	540
1. Jesus and the Pharisees facing sinners (15,1-2)	540
2. The lost sheep and the lost drachma (15,3-10)	540
3. The lost younger son and the eldest (15,11-32)	543
4. <i>Recognizing oneself as a sinner and forgiving</i> (15,1-32)	547
B. Faithful to God and to one's neighbour (16,1-31)	551
1. The shrewd steward makes friends with money (16,1-8)	551
2. Faithfulness (16,9-18)	552
3. The foolish rich man does not make friends with money (16,19-31)	555
4. <i>Faithful to God and to one's neighbour</i> (16,1-31)	558

C. Forgiving and not being proud (17,1-10)	560
1. The disciples facing sin (17,1-4)	560
2. The power of faith (17,5-6)	561
3. The disciples are simple servants (17,7-10)	563
4. <i>Forgiving and not being proud</i> (17,1-10)	565
D. «WHAT IS EXALTED AMONG MEN IS AN ABOMINATION IN THE SIGHT OF GOD» (15,1–17,10)	567
 24. ABANDONMENT FOR THE KINGDOM (Sequence C6: 17,11–18,30)	573
A. The kingdom of God is here and now (17,11-37)	574
1. The Samaritan leper sees in Jesus the work of God (17,11-19)	574
2. The day of the Son of man is the day of God (17,22-35)	576
3. When and where? (17,20-21; 17,37)	578
4. <i>The kingdom of God is here and now</i> (17,11-37).....	579
B. The judgement of the Son of man (18,1-14).....	582
1. The parable of the unjust judge and the widow (18,1-8)	583
2. The parable of the Pharisee and the publican (18,9-14)	585
3. <i>The judgement of the Son of man</i> (18,1-14)	587
C. Following the Son of God (18,15-30).....	588
1. Welcoming like a child the kingdom of God (18,15-17)	589
2. Riches keep from following Jesus (18,18-27)	590
3. Leaving everything to inherit eternal life (18,28-30)	593
4. Following the Son of God (18,15-30)	594
D. <i>ABANDONMENT FOR THE KINGDOM</i> (17,11–18,30)	596
 25. JESUS, THE CONTESTED KING, EXERCIZES JUDGEMENT (Sequence C7: 18,31–19,46)	603
A. The announcement of Jesus' fate (18,31-34)	604
B. At Jericho (18,35–19,10)	605
1. The blind man healed (18,35-43)	606
2. The publican justified (19,1-10)	609
3. <i>At Jericho, Jesus is treated as Lord</i> (18,35–19,10)	612
C. The parable of the king (19,11-28).....	614
1. The parable of the talents (Mt 25,14-30)	614
2. The parable of the minae (Luke 19,11-28)	618
D. On the mount of Olives (19,29-40).....	622
1. The enthronement of the king (19,29-36)	623
2. The acclamation the king (19,37-40)	625
3. On the mount of Olives, Jesus is greeted as king (19,29-40)	627
E. The announcement of Jerusalem's fate (19,41-46)	629
F. <i>JESUS, THE CONTESTED KING, EXERCIZES JUDGEMENT</i> (18,31–19,46)	632

26. CHRIST JUDGES WITH THE END IN MIND (Sequence C8: 19,47–21,38)	643
A. Introduction (19,47-48)	644
B. Jesus has to face his opponents (20,1-40)	645
1. Did John come from heaven or from men? (20,1-8)	646
2. Jesus reveals to the people that he is the Son of God (20,9-19)....	649
3. Are taxes to be paid to Caesar or to God? (20,20-26)	653
4. Jesus replies to the Sadducees that man is son of God (20,27-40)...	655
5. Jesus will be persecuted	657
6. <i>Jesus has to face his opponents</i> (20,1-40)	658
C. Is Christ Son or Lord of David? (20,41-44)	663
D. The disciples will have to face the test (20,45–21,36)	664
1. Take heed of the scribes	
who will be condemned at the end (20,45–21,4)	664
2. False Messiahs will arise at the end (21,5-11)	666
3. The disciples will be persecuted (21,12-19)	668
4. The true Messiah will come at the end (21,20-31)	670
5. Take heed of yourselves to stand at the end (21,32-36)	672
6. <i>The disciples will have to face the test</i> (20,45–21,36)	673
E. Conclusion (21,37-38)	678
F. <i>CHRIST JUDGES WITH THE END IN MIND</i> (19,47–21,38)	678
27. JESUS LEADS THE COMMUNITY OF HIS DISCIPLES TO JERUSALEM	
Section C: Luke 9,51–21,38	687
A. Composition of the section	687
1. Characteristics of the section as a whole	687
2. The parallelism of the extreme sub-sections (C1–C3; C6–C8) ...	692
3. The relations between the two central sequences (C4 and C5)	699
4. The function of the central sub-section	701
B. Interpretation	702
1. «Teaching and setting out for Jerusalem» (13,22)	702
2. «Whoever exalts himself will be humbled	
and whoever humbles himself will be exalted»	704
3. «There are the last who will be first	
and the first who will be last» (13,30)	708
4. The master of the house	709
PART FOUR	
Christ's Passover announced by the Scriptures of Israel	
Section D (Luke 22,1–24,53)	713
28. CHRIST MAKES A TESTAMENT	
FOR HIS DISCIPLES WHO ABANDON HIM (Sequence D1: 22,1-53)	839

A. The Passover is preparing (22,1-13)	716
1. The authorities and Judas prepare the death of Jesus (22,1-6)	716
2. Jesus and his disciples prepare the Passover (22,7-13)	718
3. <i>The Passover is preparing</i> (22,1-13)	719
B. Which is the greatest? (22,14-38)	720
1. The Passover of Jesus (22,14-20)	720
2. The announcement of the betrayal (22,21-24)	727
3. The discourse on service (22,25-30)	729
4. The announcement of the denial (22,31-34)	731
5. The swords of the apostles (22,35-38)	732
6. <i>Which is the greatest?</i> (22,14-38)	736
C. The death of Jesus is preparing (22,39-53)	739
1. Agonizing, Jesus agrees to shed his blood (22,39-46)	739
2. Arrested, Jesus refuses to shed his enemies' blood (22,47-53) ...	742
3. <i>The death of Jesus is preparing</i> (22,39-53)	744
D. <i>CHRIST MAKES A TESTAMENT</i>	
<i>FOR HIS DISCIPLES WHO ABANDON HIM</i> (22,1-53)	746
29. THE KING OF THE JEWS, CHRIST OF GOD, IS CONDEMNED (Sequence D2: 22,54–23,25)	757
A. The Jewish phase of the trial (22,54-70)	758
1. Peter denies Jesus three times (22,54-62)	758
2. The high priests' guards mock Jesus (22,63-65)	760
3. The Sanhedrin interrogates Jesus (22,66-70)	760
4. <i>The Jewish phase of the trial</i> (22,54-70)	762
B. The Roman phase of the trial (23,1-25)	763
1. The governor interrogates Jesus (23,1-5)	764
2. Herod and his soldiers mock Jesus (23,6-12)	766
3. Pilate defends Jesus three times (23,13-25)	768
4. <i>The Roman phase of the trial</i> (23,1-25)	770
C. <i>THE KING OF THE JEWS, CHRIST OF GOD,</i> <i>IS CONDEMNED</i> (22,54–23,25)	772
30. THE KING OF THE JEWS, CHRIST OF GOD, IS EXECUTED (Sequence D3: 23,26-56)	779
1. Jesus is taken to the place of execution (23,26-32)	780
2. Crucified, Jesus prays to his Father (23,33-34)	782
3. Jews and Romans in front of Jesus (23,35-37)	783
4. The two bandits on either side of Jesus (23,39-43)	784
5. Dying, Jesus prays to his Father (23,44-46)	786
6. Jesus is deposed in the tomb (23,47-56)	787
7. <i>THE KING OF THE JEWS, CHRIST OF GOD, IS EXECUTED</i> (23,26-56) ...	790

31. CHRIST OPENS THE SCRIPTURES	
FOR HIS DISCIPLES WHO FIND HIM AGAIN (Sequence D4: 24,1-53) ..	795
A. Where to look for Jesus? (24,1-12)	796
1. At the tomb the women do not find the body of Jesus (24,1-3)	796
2. Two men announce the resurrection to the women (24,4-6a)	797
3. The prophets recall the words of Jesus (24,6b-8)	798
4. The women announce the resurrection to the men (24,9-10)	799
5. At the tomb Peter does not find the body of Jesus (24,11-12)	801
6. <i>Where to look for Jesus?</i> (24,1-12)	802
B. The way of the disciples of Emmaus (24,13-33a)	804
1. The two disciples do not recognize the one that walks with them (24,13-19a)	804
2. Jesus recalls the Scriptures to them (24,19b-27)	806
3. The two disciples recognize the one that eats with them (24,28-33a)	809
4. <i>The way of the disciples of Emmaus</i> (24,13-33a)	812
C. The witnesses to the resurrection (24,33b-53)	815
1. The disciples announce the resurrection of Jesus (24,33b-35)	816
2. Jesus appears to the eyes of the disciples (24,36-43)	818
3. Jesus recalls his words and the Scriptures (24,44-47b)	820
4. Jesus announces the mission of the disciples (24,47c-49)	823
5. Jesus disappears from the eyes of the disciples (24,50-53)	824
6. <i>The witnesses to the resurrection</i> (24,33b-53)	826
D. CHRIST OPENS THE SCRIPTURES FOR HIS DISCIPLES WHO FIND HIM AGAIN (24,1-53)	828
32. THE PASSOVER OF CHRIST ANNOUNCED BY THE SCRIPTURES OF ISRAEL	
Section D: Luke 22,1–24,53	837
A. Composition of the section	837
1. The parallelism of the two central sequences (D2 and D3)	838
2. The relations between the extreme sequences (D1 and D4)	841
3. The relations between the four sequences	843
B. Interpretation	844
1. The kingship of Christ	844
2. The presence of Christ	847
THE GENERAL COMPOSITION OF THE GOSPEL OF LUKE	849
A. The center of the book	850
1. The symmetry of the two central sequences (B8 and C1)	850
2. The function of the central sequences in the book	853

Contents	901
B. The extreme sections (A and D).....	857
1. The new covenant in Christ Jesus	857
2. The accomplishment of the Scriptures in the Spirit	861
C. The extreme passages of the gospel	862
1. Prayer	863
2. Sonship	865
Epilogue	869
Appendix: Men and women in Luke's Gospel	877
Bibliography	881
Index of authors	889