

Doubtless Living!

THE GOSPEL OF **LUKE**

That you may have certainty!



Do we have any budding writers in the group?
Have any of you written a book?

Story / Narrative / Character Arc





THE FINGER OF GOD CASTING OUT DEMONS

Luke 11:14-23

THE FINGER OF GOD

Luke 11:14-23

¹⁴ Now he was driving out a demon that was mute. When the demon came out, the man who had been mute spoke, and the crowds were amazed. ¹⁵ But some of them said, "He drives out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons." ¹⁶ And others, as a test, were demanding of him a sign from heaven.

¹⁷ Knowing their thoughts, he told them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is headed for destruction, and a house divided against itself falls. ¹⁸ If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say I drive out demons by Beelzebul. ¹⁹ And if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons drive them out? For this reason they will be your judges. ²⁰ If I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²¹ When a strong man, fully armed, guards his estate, his possessions are secure. ²² But when one stronger than he attacks and overpowers him, he takes from him all his weapons he trusted in, and divides up his plunder. ²³ Anyone who is not with me is against me, and anyone who does not gather with me scatters.

INCITING EVENT

Luke 11:14

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¹⁴ Now he was driving out a demon that was **mute**. When the demon came out, the man who had been mute spoke, and the crowds were amazed.

Luke starts out with this casual phrase that sets up the story and hooks you right from the beginning.

What does this phrase tell you?

What question does it beg?

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FAVORABLE RESPONSE

Luke 11:14

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¹⁴ Now he was driving out a demon that was mute. When the demon came out, the man who had been mute spoke, and **the crowds were amazed**.

How did the crowd respond to Jesus driving out the demon?

What does that tell you about the crowd and the setting?

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ANTAGONIST APPEARS

Luke 11:15-16

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¹⁵ **But some of them said**, "He drives out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons." ¹⁶ And others, as a test, were demanding of him a sign from heaven.

But not everyone liked it,
some of them were upset.

Who were the most likely
instigators of this trouble?

Why were they stirring
up trouble for Jesus?

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CONFLICT ARISES

Luke 11:15-16

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¹⁵ But some of them said, "**He drives out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons.**" ¹⁶ And others, as a test, were demanding of him a sign from heaven.

What serious accusation did
they make about Jesus?

What did they hope to gain by
challenging Jesus' source
of power and authority?

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TENSION BUILDS

Luke 11:15-16

¹⁵ But some of them said, "He drives out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons." ¹⁶ **And others, as a test,** were demanding of him a sign from heaven.

Was it working, did others join the side of the troublemakers?

Imagine you are there at that moment, can you feel the tension rising?

CRISIS CREATED

Luke 11:15-16

¹⁵ But some of them said, "He drives out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons." ¹⁶ And others, as a test, were **demanding of him a sign from heaven.**

It was working, they had incited the crowd and they were now demanding a sign.

How were the instigators most likely feeling at that moment?

JESUS ENGAGES

Luke 11:17

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¹⁷ **Knowing their thoughts**, he told them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is headed for destruction, and a house divided against itself falls."

There is a touch of irony here, the crowd sought a sign from heaven.

How did Jesus give it to them?

He knew their thoughts, only God can do that.

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SCHEME REVEALED

Luke 11:17

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¹⁷ Knowing their thoughts, he told them, "Every kingdom **divided against itself** is headed for destruction, and a house **divided against itself** falls."

How did Jesus read their thoughts – what were they thinking at that time?

If they could undermine Jesus' power and authority, they could divide His house of followers.

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PLOT FOILED

Luke 11:17

18 If Satan also is **divided against himself**, how will his kingdom stand?

How did Jesus foil their plot and embarrass them with this statement?

He pointed out the flaw in their logic.

If Satan is in the business of casting out his own demons, then the demonic world is a divided house – a sure formula for defeat.

DOUBLE STANDARD EXPOSED

Luke 11:18-19

18 ...For you say I drive out demons by Beelzebul.

19 And if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, **by whom do your sons drive them out?** For this reason they will be your judges.

What were the implications of their logic error?

If Jesus exorcises by Satan, then so do their exorcists.

But if others exorcise by God's power, then He does too.

POWER SOURCE IDENTIFIED

Luke 11:20

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²⁰ If I drive out demons **by the finger of God**, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Who does Jesus say is the source of power for the exorcism?

What does that tell you about Jesus himself?

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KINGDOM ARRIVAL

Luke 11:20

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²⁰ If I drive out demons by the finger of God, **then the kingdom of God has come** upon you.

What did Jesus suggest that His activities signaled to the crowd?

The instigators sought to undermine His authority and divide His followers.

How well did their plan work; what was the more likely outcome?

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PARABLE OF THE VICTORIOUS PLUNDERER

Luke 11:21-23

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²¹ When a **strong man, fully armed, guards his estate, his possessions** are secure. ²² But when one stronger than he attacks and overpowers him, he takes from him all his weapons he trusted in, and divides up his plunder.

Who is the strong man, fully armed,
guarding his possessions?

What are his possessions?

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PARABLE OF THE VICTORIOUS PLUNDERER

Luke 11:21-23

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²¹ When a strong man, fully armed, guards his estate, his possessions are secure. ²² But when **one stronger than he attacks and overpowers him**, he takes from him all his weapons he trusted in, and divides up his plunder.

Who is the One stronger than Satan who
attacks and overpowers him?

Exorcism means that Satan is overrun,
and defeat comes when the stronger one
arrives, lays siege, and gains victory.

18

PARABLE OF THE VICTORIOUS PLUNDERER

Luke 11:21-23

²³ Anyone who is **not with me is against me**, and anyone who **does not gather with me scatters**.

When it comes to deciding about Jesus,
there is no neutral ground.

To not consciously join Him is to be against Him.



"A war is going on,
and one must choose
sides. There are no
Switzerland's in
this war."

Darrell Bock, BECNT

DELIBERATE DISCIPLESHIP

- Luke is a master storyteller, but this is not fiction, it's fact!
- Jesus' miraculous work is not an entertaining diversion from His ministry, it is a demonstration of God's power.
- His work forces people to decide who He is and what He represents -- when it comes to deciding about Jesus, there is no neutral ground.

What strongholds does Satan have over you
that Jesus needs to storm and plunder?