

Abstract

The aim of the diploma thesis is to impart a comprehensive view of the topic of "wealth," as presented by Luke in his gospel. The first chapter provides a general view of the notion of property and wealth, as passed on to us first by the Old Testament (OT) and subsequently by the New Testament (NT). The following chapter deals with a narrower selection of texts followed in the third chapter by the main part of this thesis – a detailed linguistic and literary analysis (“exegesis”). The selected texts comprise a set of several parables that touch upon the theme of “property” (as well as attitudes towards it). These are, in particular, the parable of the rich man and the barns (L 12,13–21), the parable of the lost coin (L 15,8–10), the parable of the prodigal son (L 15,11–32), the parable of the dishonest steward (L 16,1–9) and also the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (L 16,19–31). The fourth chapter not only encapsulates Luke's view of wealth, but also mentions the antithesis of wealth, namely poverty. The following chapter focuses on the term "God's kingdom" and its relationship to the material goods of this world. As the Gospel of Luke is often combined with the Acts of the Apostles to coalesce into one great composition, the last chapter is devoted to the relationship of the first Christian community to wealth. Valuable information from the era of the first centuries is drawn from the aforementioned book Acts of the Apostles.

Keywords

wealth, property, Gospel according to Luke, parables, exegesis