
For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost.

Luke 19:10

Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as those, who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, handed them down to us, it seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write it out for you in orderly sequence, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty about the things you have been taught.

Luke 1:1-4 (page 1372)

The Prologue: Luke 1:1-4

The Prologue

- Who, what, where, when, why, & how?
 - The “stats”
 - Luke: physician, historian, theologian, & pastor

The “stats”

- Luke is the third of 4 volumes written by the same author (Acts)
- Starts about 40 years (estimated)
- Makes up nearly one-third of the New Testament
- Longest, most thorough and complete account of the life and ministry of Jesus
- 1st of 4 Gospel accounts (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)
- Written around 60-80 (after Mark & Matthew, before John)
- 60/40
- Written by a gentile to gentiles

The “stats”

- Luke is the first of 2 volumes written by the same author (Acts)
 - Spans about 65 years (combined)
 - Makes up nearly one-third of the New Testament

• Longest, most thorough and complete account of the life and ministry of Jesus

• 1st Gospel accounts (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)

• Luke accounts 1/60 after Mark & Matthew, before John

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- Written around A.D. 60 (after Mark & Matthew; before John)

→ 60/40

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 - 60% similar to the other [synoptic] Gospels; 40% unique to Luke
 - Including 7 of Christ’s miracles and 17 of His parables

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Purpose: 1:1-4

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Luke 1:1-4 (page 1372)

The “stats”

- Luke Outlined
 - A. Prelude to Christ’s Ministry (1:1-4:13)
 - B. Ministry in Galilee (4:14-9:50)
 - C. The Journey to Jerusalem (9:51-19:27)
 - D. The Passion Week (19:28-23:56)
 - E. The Consummation of Christ’s Ministry (24:1-53)

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Luke 1:1-4 (page 1372)

“Who?”

- Who is Luke?
 - Tradition & Scripture

• Gentle, not an eye-witness, companion of Paul, very educated

• Physician

• Historian

• Theologian

• Pastor

The first account, O Theophilus, I composed, about all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when He was taken up to heaven, after He had by the Holy Spirit given orders to the apostles whom He had chosen, to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over forty days and speaking about the things concerning the kingdom of God.

Acts 1:1

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Luke, *the beloved physician*, sends you his greetings...

Colossians 4:14

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