

Our Wars *A New Beginning*

About Luke

Col. 4:14—"Beloved physician"

Only Gentile author of any part of NT

Accomp. Paul on missionary travels. 2 Tim 4:11—with Paul at time of his martyrdom

Prob written about 70 AD.

Longest book in NT

Slanted twd Gentiles: Jesus' lineage traced back to Adam rather than Abraham; translated Heb. into Greek

Unusual interest in medical matters

Jesus' relationship w/people considered outcasts: women, children, poor, tax collectors, Samaritans

Only in Luke:

Annunciation to Zacharias & Mary

Birth/childhood of John the Baptist

Birth of Jesus

Shepherds' visit

Details of Jesus' childhood

Inner thoughts of Mary

1. How would a biographer prepare for writing about someone's life?
2. What period in history do you wish you could visit? Why?
3. How would you prepare to serve as a character witness in court for your best friend?

Read 1:1-4

1. What did you learn about the gospel of Luke?
 - A. v1: Stimulated by the work of others
 - B. v2: consulted eyewitnesses
2. What might be the relationship btw Luke & Theophilus from v1-3?
3. How had Luke received his evidence for the "things fulfilled among us?" (2)
4. On what kind of people did Luke rely for his information? (2)
5. Who were the "servants of the word?" (2)
6. What credentials did Luke use to back up the trustworthiness of what he wrote? (3)
7. What reasons did Luke give for deciding to write his Gospel? (3-4)
8. What did Luke hope would be the result of this Gospel in the life of Theophilus? (4)
9. What does the phrase "know the certainty of the things you have been taught? Mean? (4)
10. What characteristics of the time in which Luke lived might make him a better observer, listener, and witness than people today are?
11. On what evidence would you rely to be certain of the things you were taught?
12. In what ways can we identify with Theophilus?
13. If you got a personal letter tomorrow that began just like this introduction, with your name in the place of Theophilus, how would you treat the letter?
14. Are you a person who needs to be taught or a person who needs to be more certain of what you've already been taught?
15. How do you personally plan to approach this study of the Gospel of Luke?