



Luke 1:1-25

When God Breaks Through

Author:

_____ **the physician, (Colossians 4:14)** A close friend and traveling partner of the Apostle Paul. Luke is also the author of the Book of Acts. Luke and Acts are companion books. Luke met Paul in Troas and began traveling with him on his second missionary journey. **(Acts 16:10)** When Paul left to minister in Achaia, Luke stayed behind and pastored the church at Philippi. **(Acts 18:22)** When Paul returned, Luke, again, joined him as he embarked on his third missionary journey. **(Acts 20:6)** When Paul was nearing the end of his life, it was Luke who was by his side. **(2 Timothy 4:11)** It is not a random individual who writes this gospel, but someone who was intimately involved in the knowledge of Jesus life and ministry and the formation of the early church.

Recipient:

_____. Not much is known of Theophilus other than that the Books of Luke and Acts are written to him. The name Theophilus was a common name and means "lover of God," or "loved by God." In Luke, he is referred to as "most excellent Theophilus." "Most excellent" is used in the Book of Acts as a title for both Roman governors, Felix and Festus. **(Acts 23:26, 24:3, 26:25)** This may give indication that Theophilus was an individual of official status, high social rank or simply a highly respected individual.

It seems that Theophilus had become a follower of Christ but was in need of a carefully laid out and organized account of the life and ministry of Christ as well as a record of the early expansion of the church. The church owes a debt of gratitude to Theophilus because without his commitment to discipleship we may not have this gospel of Luke.

Date:

There are differences of opinion on the date of writing of the Book of Luke. Many scholars opt for a date range of A.D. 80-100. The rationale is the belief that Luke used Mark's gospel as a resource for his writing. Mark is believed to have been written in A.D. 65-69. According to Luke's account he undertook a careful investigation of eyewitness testimony and testimony from ministers of the word. **(Luke 1:1-4)** So, factoring in the time of Luke's research the later date is recommended.

However, there are also many scholars who contend for an earlier date range of A.D. 58-63. This range takes into account that the gospel of Luke was written before the Book of Acts. **(Luke 1:1)** Considering the book of Acts ends very abruptly, with Paul still in prison. This seems to indicate that Luke finished Acts while Paul was still there. This imprisonment took place in approximately **A.D.** _____ - _____. Therefore, Luke would have to have been written before that date.

Outline:

- I. Prologue and Purpose (Luke 1:1-4)**
- II. Proclamation and birth of John and Jesus (Luke 1:5-2:52)**
- III. Preparation for ministry (Luke 3:1-4:13)**
- IV. Preaching, teaching and ministering in Galilee (Luke 4:14-9:50)**
- V. The Path to Jerusalem (Luke 9:51-19:27)**
- VI. Provocation and Prophecy in Jerusalem. (Luke 19:28-21:38)**

Theme:

Jesus, the _____ of the world.

Each of the four gospels has a specific purpose and theme. Matthew was written to a primarily Jewish audience with the purpose of revealing Jesus as the long-awaited Jewish Messiah. Mark was written to a primarily Gentile audience (Rome) and presents Jesus as the suffering servant who came to give His life for many. John was written to a mix of Jew and gentile believers who had some familiarity with Jesus. John expands on Jesus as the "word," God in the flesh who came to dwell with us and reveal The Father to the world.

The theme of Luke is that Jesus came to be a Savior for all. Luke often emphasizes Jesus' compassion for the "outcasts" and those looked down on in society. There is far less of an emphasis on issues related to Jewish belief and law and more of an emphasis on the love of God for the marginalized of society. One of the key verses of the entire gospel is in **Luke 19:10** which presents Jesus as the one who came to "seek and save the lost."

The Bottom Line:
Though the _____ may be long, God's promise _____.

The four _____ of Luke: (VS 1-4)

- 1. Many Have Written:** Written and oral accounts of Jesus' life already existed.
- 2. Eyewitnesses Accounts:** These accounts come from eyewitness testimony.
- 3. Luke Investigated:** Luke carefully researched everything from the beginning.
- 4. You can be certain:** Luke wrote orderly account to ensure certainty of instruction.

Eyewitnesses (VS 3)

Autoptēs (Strong's G845)

I. seeing with one's own eye, an eyewitness

1. a medical term: autopsy, _____ examination

Zacharias: Yahweh _____ **(VS 5)**

Elizabeth: The _____ of God. **(VS 5)**

God's delays are not God's _____. – **Skip Heitzig (VS 5)**

John: Yahweh has graced. Yahweh has given _____ **(VS 13)**

Six snapshots of Christ's _____: (VS 14-17)

1. He will bring great joy to many
2. He will be great in the sight of The Lord
3. He will not drink wine or strong drink (Nazirite vow)
4. He will be filled with the Spirit from birth
5. He will facilitate many in Israel to return to God
6. He will be a forerunner of Christ, to prepare the people for the revealing of the Messiah **(Malachi 4:5-6)**

"The tongue that was not ready to speak the language of _____ was struck speechless." – **J.C. Ryle (VS 18-20)**

Never allow your own mouth to talk you out of _____. **(VS 18-20)**

Zacharias was _____ by God, but he was never _____ by God. **(VS 24-25)**

Though we should never question God's Word, even our doubt cannot _____. His _____. **(VS 24-25)**



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