

# The Life of Christ

## PART ONE: Intro to Luke and the Gospel of Luke

### 1. What do we know of Luke?

- A Gentile, not a Jew (Colossians 4:11, 14)
- Met Paul on his 2<sup>nd</sup> Missionary journey, (Acts 16:9-10) and generally stayed with Paul from then on
- Named a “physician” in Scripture
- Called “The Great Historian”, even by secular historians – superior to other writers of his age in noting places and people in power, verifiable information
- Wrote more of the New Testament by volume than any other author

### 2. What do we know about the Gospel of Luke

- Written AD 60-65
- Like Acts, it is addressed to “most excellent Theophilus” – taken to be a literal person, a believer, and an official of Roman government. (Luke 1:1-4, Acts 1:1-2)
- Luke and Acts were probably written, at least to some degree, to be used for defense of Paul

### 3. Comparison of four Gospels

- Chronologically after Mark (5-10y), with Matthew, before John (15-25y)
- General Distinctions
  - **Mark** – First gospel account, written with Gentile audience in mind (with Paul & Barnabas for 1<sup>st</sup> missionary journey, Barnabas’ 2<sup>nd</sup> missionary journey, etc.) focusing on the final week of Christ  
“Jesus the Servant”  
Content – Blue-collar audience, source material for p/o Matthew and Luke
  - **Luke** – Provide an ordered historical account of the events concerning the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Luke 1:1-4).  
“Jesus the perfect Man”  
Content – chronological
  - **Matthew** – Written to prove to Jews that Jesus is the promised Messiah  
“Jesus the Messiah”  
Content – prophetic fulfillment and markers, more actual dialogue and teachings of Jesus Christ, strong Jewish perspective.
  - **John** – Jesus presented as God, much more personal accounts of Jesus and the disciples.  
“Jesus as God”  
Content – More intimate perspective from disciples, almost all content is unique. More evangelistic content.

## **PART TWO: Luke Chapter One**

### **4. Opening Address to Theophilus**

- Luke 1:1-4 (discussed above)

### **5. The Birth of John the Baptist – Luke 1:5-25**

- V4 – Herod, King of the Jews, died 4 BC
- V4 – Tribe of Aaron
- V6 – Both were righteous before God – means saved!
- V7 – Barren and past parenting age – like Abraham and Sarah
- V8-10 – Performing worship service to God
- V13 – “YHWH is Gracious”
- V15 – Nasserite from the womb – like Samson
- V16-17 – Identifies John as the forerunner of Messiah  
Quotes Malachi 4:5-6  
Jesus identifies John same; Matthew 17:10-13  
John identifies himself (John 1:22-23) by Isaiah 40:3
- V19 – Angel identified as Gabriel, same angel who appeared to Daniel (ch 9) and who will appear to Mary (vs 26)