Outline of Luke

1-3 The Coming Lord 4-9 The Lord's Mission in Galilee 10-19 The Lord's Mission Toward Jerusalem 19-24 The Lord's Mission in Jerusalem

Author

Several factors indicate that the author Luke is the same writer of the book of Acts. A man name Theophilus was the recipient of both books (Lk.1:3; Ac.1:1). Also the book of Acts refers to a work by the same writer. The writer acquired his knowledge of Jesus' life from research rather than direct evewitness observations (Lk.1:1-4). Thus the writer did not travel with Jesus. Luke probably wrote the gospel during Paul's Caesarean imprisonment in 57-59 A.D. (Ac.24:1-26:32). Since Paul sends greetings from a group called "of the circumcision" and then from Luke (implied not of the circumcision) that he must have been a Gentile (Cl.4:11,14). If this is true, then Luke would be the only gentile writer of a New Testament book.

Theophilus

He was a real person. His name means, "friend of God". This name was likely given to him when he believed because Roman officials did not normally name their children with religious connections. He appears to be a recent convert to Christ from Greek paganism.

Summarv

Luke wrote to inform Theophilus, who has believed, and to Greeks to

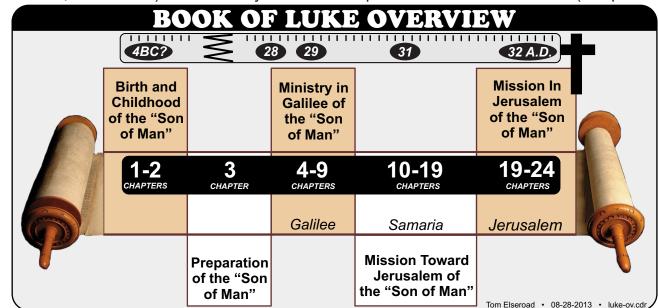
LUKE

Luke's gospel constitutes an apologetic to convince his readers of the reliability of the facts that he recorded so they would believe in Jesus and become Christians using history.

persuade them to believe about the truthfulness of the gospel to give them a factual basis for the faith (Lk.1:4). This is the longest book in the New Testament in terms of the number of words used (Matthew is second, Acts is third). Luke actually states

The humanity of Jesus in this book features His compassion for the weak, the suffering, and the outcast. Jesus places higher value on good character, than on a person's nationality. Many Jews looked upon Samaritans with disfavor (compare

LIFE OF CHRIST



its purpose of the book. Since the book of Luke is the first of two parts (Acts is part two), it can be called first Luke. Luke's genealogy traces Jesus' parentage to Adam, the universal man of the Old testament. Thus we see Jesus as the "Son of man" in the book. This is a title as well as a description of who Jesus is in the book of Luke. The events and stories chosen follow this theme throughout.

Lk.17:15-16; 10:30-37).



CHRIST IN LUKE

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