

## LUKE: THE BELOVED PHYSICIAN

(Luke 1:1-4)

Doubt is very dangerous. Little by little it can gnaw away at the soul. The longer you camp on your doubts the more likely you will sink into despair and unbelief. Assurance and certainty is what is needed.

For most of us, there are times when Christianity makes all the sense in the world. Yet, if we are honest, there are other times when nagging questions enter our minds, and our faith falters. We still believe in Jesus, but some times the whole story of salvation seems quite improbable.

This is the reason Dr. Luke wrote his Gospel, which is the longest book of the New Testament and the most comprehensive of the four Gospels. He writes as an investigative reporter presenting the Gospel of certainty.

### THREE CONSIDERATIONS OF LUKE'S GOSPEL OF CERTAINTY CHASING AWAY ANY OF OUR DOUBTS ABOUT JESUS.

Luke writes helping us as believers gain a greater assurance of our faith. It is the Gospel of Knowing For Sure!

#### I. Luke Wrote A Historically Accurate Account Of Jesus and His Work. (vv.1-3)

- A. Luke tells us that he was not the only person to write of Jesus. (v.1) "Many"
  - 1. Luke knew of Mark's Gospel. There are similarities...
  - 2. There were the oral traditions of the Apostles. Yet, these men would not live forever, so a more complete history of Jesus needed to be written. To fill out the details...
- B. What Luke wrote was real history with real people. It was not fiction. He wrote about real things that were accomplished.
  - 1. He is careful to place the story of Jesus in its historical context. (2:2) "Quirinus"
  - 2. He desired to simply record what really happened and what really was said.  
Sir William Ramsay, the archeologist, "Luke was an historian of the first rank..."
  - 3. If Luke did not get his facts of history right, we could never trust his words about Jesus' virgin birth, miracles, or His resurrection.  
Our entire salvation depends on the things that Jesus accomplished in history, specifically through His sufferings and death.
- C. The result of this: We have a rational basis for our faith in Jesus.

#### II. Luke Carefully Researched His Sources In Writing His Gospel. (v.3)

- A. Luke tells us that he "investigated everything from the beginning." (of Jesus' life)
  - 1. He writes as a very educated person, yet he was not an eyewitness of Jesus.

