

Intro: When I was in Bible College I spent one summer on a dredge: Intercoastal From Jax to West Palm
 I was the token Christian: First night: Who are you? Why are you here? Are we going to like you?
 One night when it was time to leave...going back to school...Mate (boss) Can you explain this Christian stuff?
 That is what Luke is doing in his Gospel: He is EXPLAINING this Christian stuff, to a man named Theophilus
 "Lover of God" Vs 4: "You have been taught this...I want to start at the beginning...go to the end, explain it all"

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1. Understand Who Luke Was:

Vs 1

- Most prolific author of NT: 28% volume
- Medical Dr: Paul called him "the beloved physician"
- Companion of Paul on some of the missionary journeys
- Greek: Writing for Greeks
Show Chart
- Trained and Educated: ~Introduction: Same word as Hippocrates in his introduction to Med Journal
~Uses the introduction in a way Greek historians would...flawless classical greek
- Under Patronage: Theophilus: (God lover) Greek or Roman official of some kind
- Believer in Jesus Acts: (We passages)

Eyewitness of some in Acts...Collector of first hand information

2. What Luke Was Doing:

- Giving an "orderly" account of the message of Jesus ~Sometimes Chronological
~Sometimes Topical (East vs West history)
Traced in fine detail
- Carefully investigated and written down
- Presenting Jesus to Greeks: Written from that perspective
- Relying on others: Certainly Matthew and Mark Synoptic: In Sync: John is the outlier
- Eyewitness accounts, other records
- Helping his patron go beyond the facts to gain true understanding Taught vs 4 (Catechism)

3. Why Luke Was Doing It.

- Give a full and accurate account of what was believed: Vs 3 Carefully investigated and written down
~Uses a medical term that talks about tracing symptoms: You have this belief...where come from?
- Help you understand what...and why you believe! Heard it, recite it back...now you KNOW it

John said it this way:

1Jo 5:13 "I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life."

- *Jesus was the Promised One of God, the deliverer of the Jews and Savior of all mankind*
- *He was prophesied, lived, died and rose again*
- *When Jesus died on the cross, the just died for the unjust.*
- *When He rose on the third day it was God's stamp of approval*
- *All who put their faith and trust in His finished work on the cross have eternal life*

Reflections:

- It is one thing to hear it...and agree with it intellectually
- Quite another to KNOW it and embrace the message of Jesus personally
- Luke is writing to us to help us KNOW we have eternal life
- Do you?
- If you aren't sure...see me after the service

When I finished sharing my story...and what Jesus had done for me...

I asked, Do you understand? Yes...

Do you want to pray with me and put your faith in Jesus, ask Him to forgive your sin?

No...not yet...let me think about all this...it's a lot. Next couple of days I went back to school

If you don't know for sure...you can