

That You May Know

Luke 1:1-4 Sunday AM, May 19, 2024

Prelude – Scripture: Luke 1:1–4 (NASB95) Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us, 2 just as they were handed down to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, 3 it seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write it out for you in consecutive order, most excellent Theophilus; 4 so that you may know the exact truth about the things you have been taught.

And so we move to another book of the Bible—when is the last time you read Luke? Where are you reading right now? And what do you hope to see—something interesting? Something helpful to live by? Is there connection between what you read and your growth in the fear of God? God is present and acting inside history. We behold the works of God now based on what those God ordained beheld but then recorded for us to behold so we might believe. **Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us, 2 just as they were handed down to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word,** In the gospels, we have eyewitness accounts of Jesus—God’s final word and confirmation of His promises to deliver His people from their sins and reconciling them to Himself. To know the gospel is to praise God for Jesus. Church, lift your voices to exalt Christ—note the mission resulting from praising Christ in this song.

***Hymn (Powerpoint): Lift High the Name of Jesus**

There should be emotional involvement in your relationship with God, but there is also careful study of the events and facts so that we have a solid basis for our faith. Ponder these simple four verses at the beginning of Luke and think of the treasure, the value of the subject as events were compiled, investigated carefully, and put in order. Who is this Jesus of whom these gospels speak? As you sing, remember that this One we speak of as so close is holy. He is God. Marvel at His condescension and worship.

***Hymn (Powerpoint): Savior and Friend**

***Pastoral Prayer: Pastor Jahn Choir: God of Heaven**

Scripture: Psalm 78:1–39 (NASB95) 1 Listen, O my people, to my instruction; Incline your ears to the words of my mouth. 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old, 3 Which we have heard and known, And our fathers have told us. 4 We will not conceal them from their children, But tell to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, And His strength and His wondrous works that He has done. 5 For He established a testimony in Jacob And appointed a law in Israel, Which He commanded our fathers That they should teach them to their children, 6 That the generation to come might know, even the children yet to be born, That they may arise and tell them to their children, 7 That they should put their confidence in God And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments, 8 And not be like their fathers, A stubborn and rebellious generation, A generation that did not prepare its heart And whose spirit was not faithful to God. 9 The sons of Ephraim were archers equipped with bows, Yet they turned back in the day of battle. 10 They did not keep the covenant of God And refused to walk in His law; 11 They forgot His deeds And His miracles that He had shown them. 12 He wrought wonders before their fathers In the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan. 13 He divided the sea and caused them to pass through, And He made the waters stand up like a heap. 14 Then He led them with the cloud by day And all the night with a light of fire. 15 He split the rocks in the wilderness And gave them abundant drink like the ocean depths. 16 He brought forth streams also from the rock And caused waters to run down like rivers. 17 Yet they still continued to sin against Him, To rebel against the Most High in the desert. 18 And in their heart they put God to the test By asking food according to their desire. 19 Then they spoke against God; They said, “Can God prepare a table in the wilderness? 20 “Behold, He struck the rock so that waters gushed out, And streams were overflowing; Can He give bread also? Will He provide meat for His people?” 21 Therefore the LORD heard and was full of wrath; And a fire was kindled against Jacob And anger also mounted against Israel, 22 Because they did not believe in God And did not trust in His salvation. 23 Yet He commanded the clouds above And opened the doors of heaven; 24 He rained down manna upon them to eat And gave them food from heaven. 25 Man did eat the bread of angels; He sent them food in abundance. 26 He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens And by His power He directed the south wind. 27 When He rained meat upon them like the dust, Even winged fowl like the sand of the seas, 28 Then He let them fall in the midst of their camp, Round about their dwellings. 29 So they ate and were well filled, And their desire He gave to them. 30 Before they had satisfied their desire, While their food was in their mouths, 31 The anger of God rose against them And killed some of their stoutest ones, And subdued the choice men of Israel. 32 In spite of all this they still sinned And did not believe in His wonderful works. 33 So He brought their days to an end in futility And their years in sudden terror. 34 When He killed them, then they sought Him, And returned and searched diligently for God; 35 And they remembered that God was their rock, And the Most High God their Redeemer. 36 But they deceived Him with their mouth And lied to Him with their tongue. 37 For their heart was not steadfast toward Him, Nor were they faithful in His covenant. 38 But He, being compassionate, forgave their iniquity and did not destroy them; And often He restrained His anger And did not arouse all His wrath. 39 Thus He remembered that they were but flesh, A wind that passes and does not return.

Offering: *Doxology:

This careful recording of events is not limited to Luke, but throughout Scripture as God has mercifully recorded His works so we could know Him—remember Him. We forget, we follow so many other things that sparkle—I didn’t mean to slip so far—how could I treat someone like that? How did my health, my goals, my family, my job, my country—so many parts of life distract me from remembering the works and word of the Lord? Listen again to the psalmist--**4 We will not conceal them from their children, But tell to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, And His strength and His wondrous works that He has done. 5 For He established a testimony in Jacob And appointed a law in Israel, Which He commanded our fathers That they should teach them to their children, 6 That the generation to come might know, even the children yet to be born, That they may arise and tell them to their children, 7 That they should put their confidence in God And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments,** Church, fear the Lord by remembering His works.

***Hymn #52: O God Our Help in Ages Past**

The goal for this careful compilation of events for Theophilus? 4 so that you may know the exact truth about the things you have been taught. The exact truth is important. Do you want to know the truth? Remembering God’s words and works leads to confidence in God which shows by keeping His commandments. Pray for a receptive heart that hungers to hear God’s Words not only as Pastor speaks, but that you will take these thoughts back to your own study of God’s Word.

***Hymn (Powerpoint): Speak O Lord**

Message: That You May Know Luke 1:1-4 *Hymn #268 (Red): How Firm a Foundation *Prayer