GTS
ACADEMY
HOME CHURCH
Know God. 'Listen' To God. Unite For God.

SERMON #26

LUKE

LUKE 1:1-4



"so that you may know the exact truth about the things you have been taught."
LUKE 1:4

A Careful Investigation. An Orderly Account. Truth for Jew & Gentile.

WHO WAS LUKE?

THE BELOVED PHYSICIAN
Paul calls Luke "the beloved physician" and names him among his coworkers. (Colossians 4:14; Philemon 24)

A CAREFUL INVESTIGATOR
Luke says he investigated everything carefully from the beginning and relied on testimony handed down by eyewitnesses. (Luke 1:1-4)

WRITING TO THEOPHILUS
Luke and Acts are addressed to Theophilus so that he could know the exact truth about what he had been taught. (Luke 1:3-4; Acts 1:1)

GENTILE OR JEW?
Scripture never explicitly states Luke's ethnicity. Many infer Gentile from Colossians 4:10-14; a Hellenistic-Jewish background remains possible.

A COMPANION IN THE MISSION
Luke is named among Paul's coworkers and remained with Paul late in his ministry. (Philemon 24; 2 Timothy 4:11)

WHAT LUKE SET OUT TO DO

- Preserve testimony handed down by eyewitnesses.
- Investigate everything carefully from the beginning.
- Write the account in an orderly sequence.
- Give Theophilus certainty about what he had been taught.
- Continue the story in Acts as the Gospel moves outward.

CIRCUMCISION & THE LAW

- **Genesis 17:9-14; Leviticus 12:3**
  Circumcision is commanded in Torah for Abraham's descendants.
- **Acts 15**
  Gentile believers were not required to be circumcised as a condition of salvation.
- **Acts 21:20-26**
  The accusation that Paul taught Jews to forsake Moses and stop circumcising their children is answered by demonstrating that Paul himself walked orderly.
- **Acts 16:3; Galatians 2:3**
  Timothy was circumcised; Titus was not compelled to be circumcised.

THE DISTINCTION

1. Do not make Gentiles become Jews in order to belong to Messiah.
2. Do not confuse that with teaching Jewish believers to abandon God's commandments.
3. Paul rejects circumcision as a means of justification (Galatians 5:2-6), while 1 Corinthians 7:18-19 says not to erase one's circumcision status and emphasizes keeping God's commandments.

THE TAKEAWAY

Luke carefully investigated the truth so all people could know Yeshua with certainty - and follow Him faithfully.