

Calvary Chapel Portsmouth



Simply teaching the Bible, simply

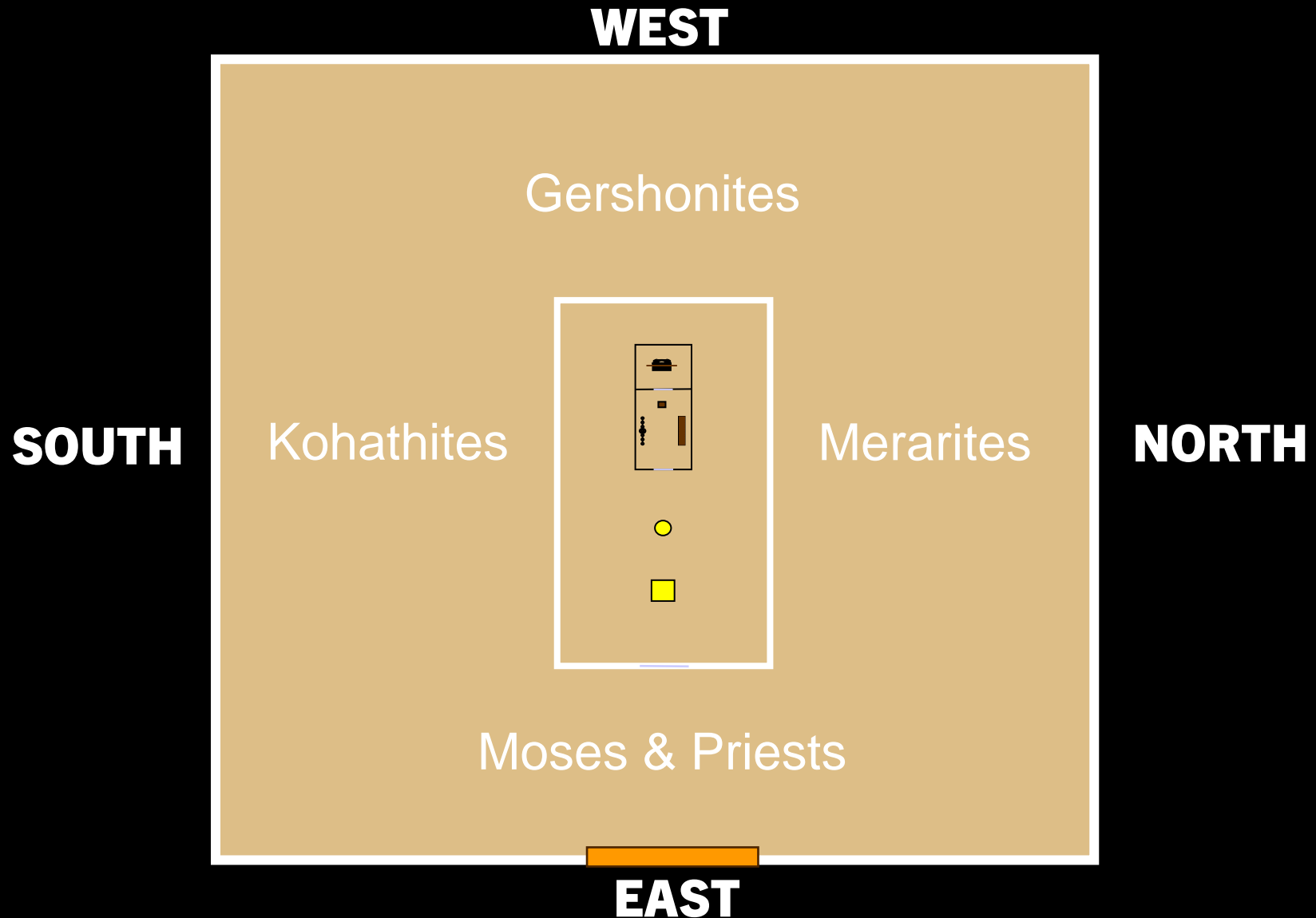
The Gospel of Luke

a verse-by-verse study

Session 1

Numbers Ch2

Arrangement of the Levites



Numbers Ch2

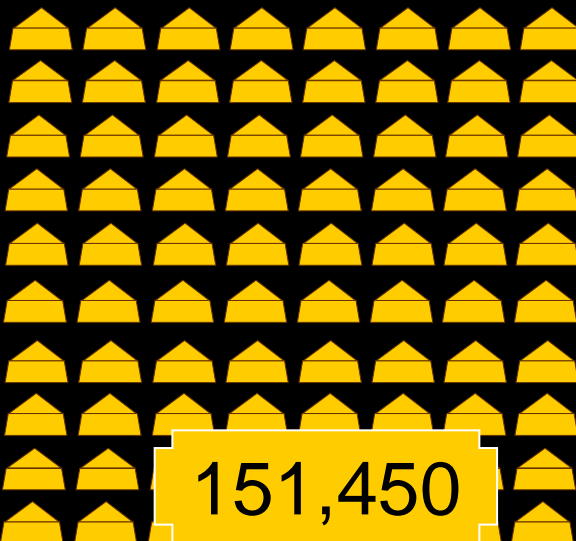
Arrangement of the Camp

Ephraim	40,500
Manasseh	32,200
Benjamin	35,400

108,100

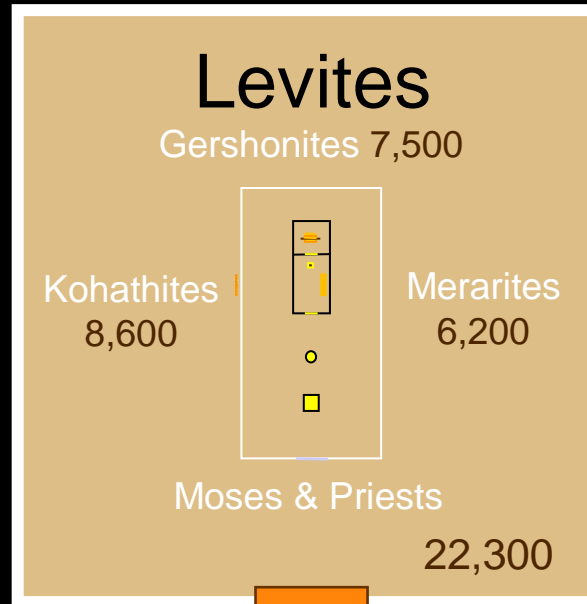
Ephraim

Dan	62,700
Asher	41,500
Naphtali	53,400

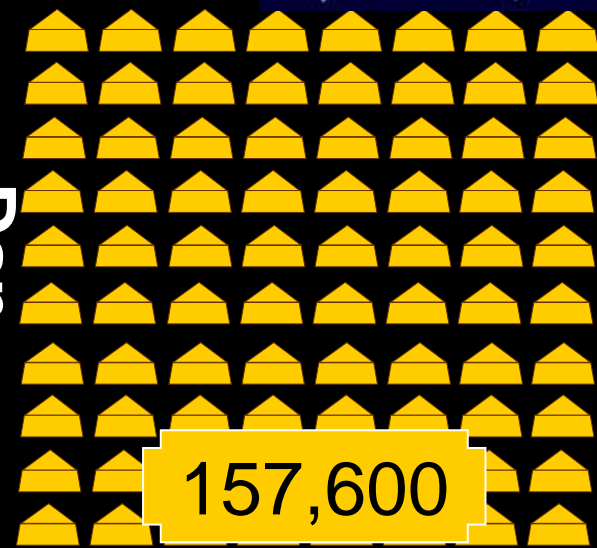


Reuben

151,450



Dan



157,600

Reuben	46,500
Simeon	59,300
Gad	45,650

Judah

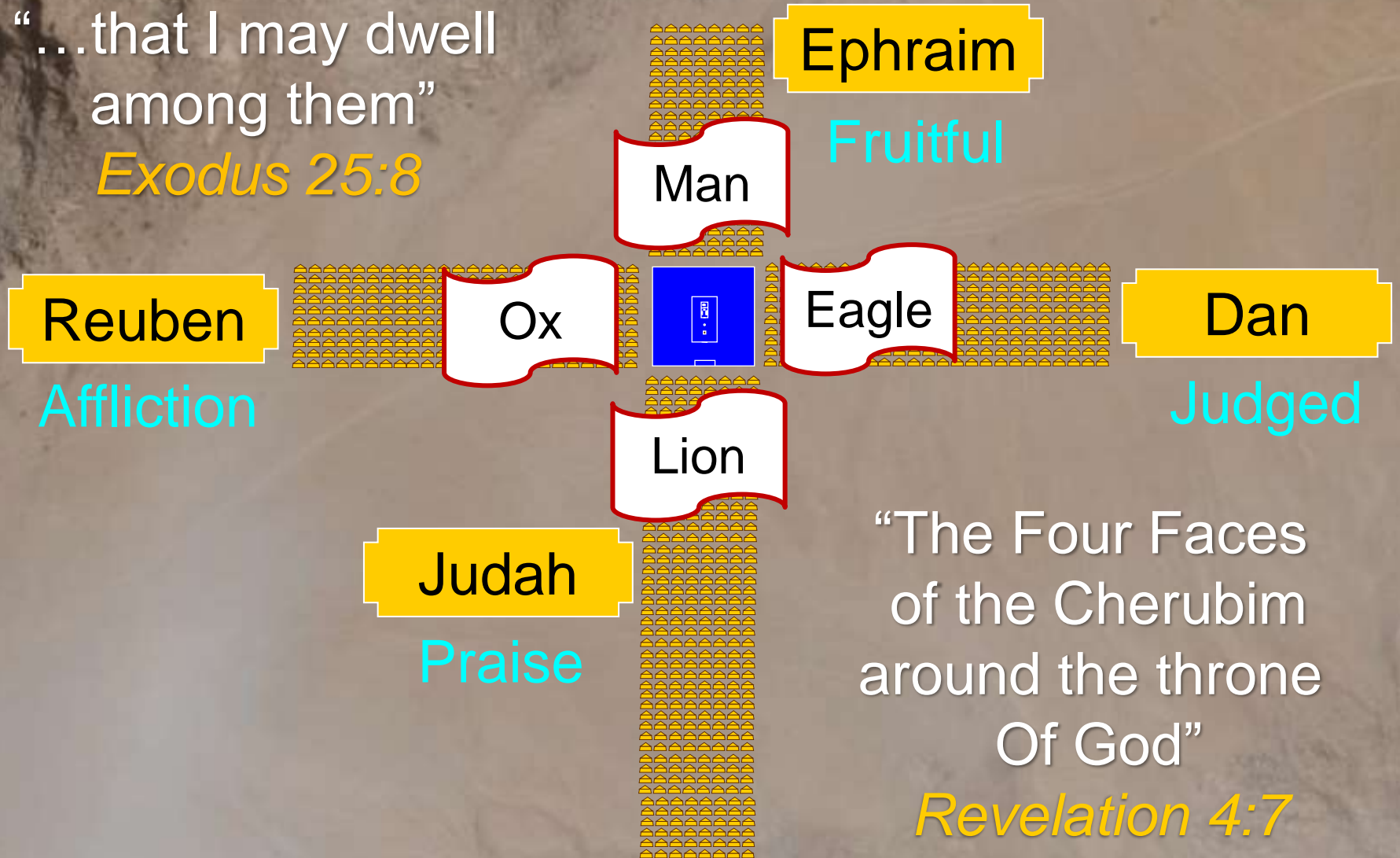
186,400

Judah	74,600
Issachar	54,400
Zebullun	57,400

Numbers Ch2

Arrangement of the Camp

“...that I may dwell
among them”
Exodus 25:8



“The Four Faces
of the Cherubim
around the throne
Of God”
Revelation 4:7

The Design of the Gospels

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Presents as:	Messiah	Servant	Son of Man	Son of God
Genealogy:	Abraham (Legal)	--	Adam (Blood line)	Eternal (Preexistence)
What Jesus	Said	Did	Felt	Was
To the:	Jew	Roman	Greek	Church
1st Miracle:	Leper cleansed (Jew = sin)	Demon expelled	Demon expelled	Water to Wine
Ends with	Resurrection	Ascension	Promise of Spirit: Acts	Promise of Return: Revelation
Camp Side:	East	West	South	North
Ensign:	Judah	Ephraim	Reuben	Dan
Face:	Lion	Ox	Man	Eagle
Style:	Groupings	Snapshots	Narrative	Mystical

Introduction

- Born in Antioch
 - According to Jerome
- Medical Doctor by profession
 - Paul calls him “*the beloved Physician*” (Col. 4:14)
- Becomes a friend of Paul
 - He join Paul at Troas (Acts 16:9-10) and then accompanies him on his 2nd & 3rd missionary journeys
- Luke penned as much of the NT than Paul!
 - Luke/Acts 50,195 words /
 - Paul’s letters 43,402 words
 - + Hebrews = Paul penned 50,315 words

God's Commitment to the Jews

- ¹ What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision?
- ² Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God.

Romans 3:1-2



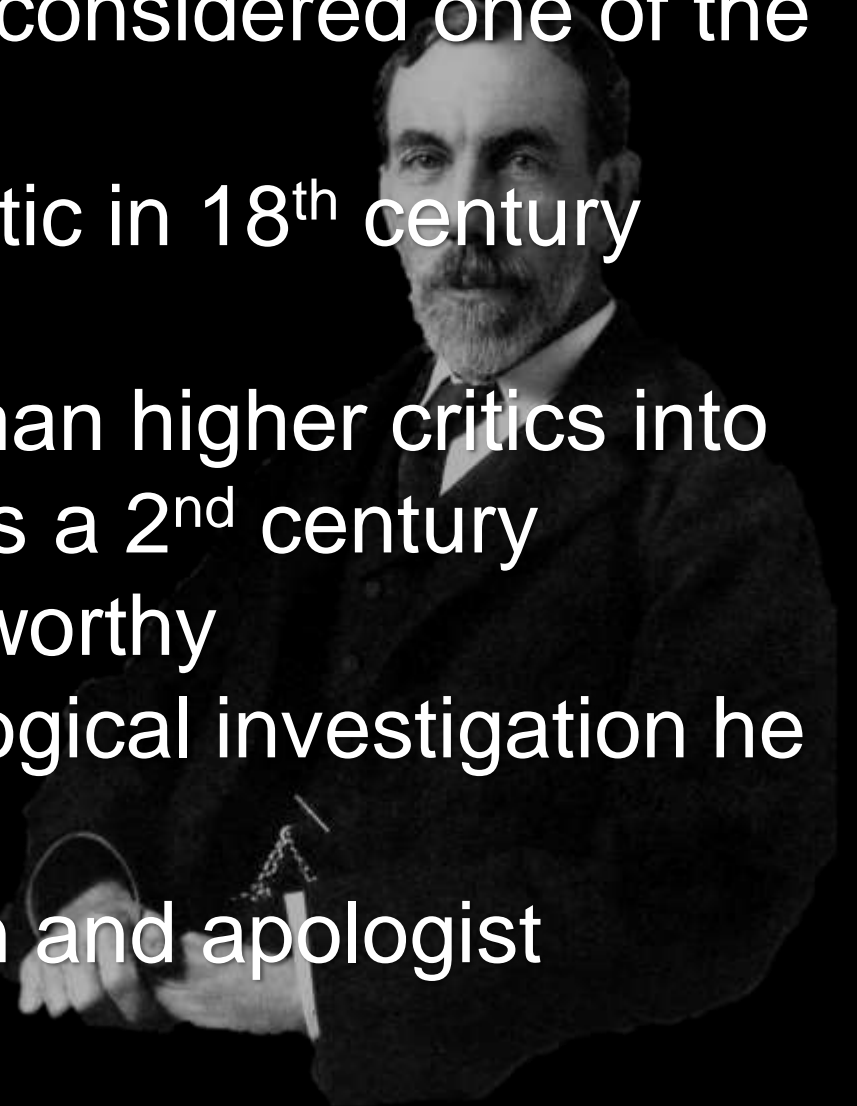
About the Author

- Jew or Gentile?
- *“Country to nearly all modern scholarship, Luke was not a Gentile. The Romans 3: 1-2 citation is in itself absolutely conclusive and serves to correct any and all who instruct otherwise. Luke penned more text than any other New Testament writer, more than either Paul or John. Were Luke indeed non-Jewish, the Lord not only failed to honour his testimony in Romans 3, he also entrusted more of the New Testament revelation into the hands of a Gentile than those of his “chosen people”.”*

– Dr Floyd Nolan Jones

Historicity of Luke's Accounts

- Sir William Ramsey is considered one of the greatest of historians
- He was a Biblical sceptic in 18th century England...
- ...swayed by the German higher critics into believing that Luke was a 2nd century document and untrustworthy
- After diligent archaeological investigation he did a complete U-turn
- He became a Christian and apologist



Historicity of Luke's Accounts

- *“Luke is a historian of the first rank; not merely are his statements of fact trustworthy, this author should be placed along with the very greatest of historians”* Sir William Ramsey
- *“Luke’s history is unsurpassed in respect of its trustworthiness”* Sir William Ramsey
- *“Luke’s reliability as an historian is unquestionable”* Josh McDowell

Historicity of Luke's Accounts

- Luke uses more medical terms than Hypocrates
 - considered the father of medicine
- Luke shows himself as an historian in his method
- *“The most beautiful book that exists”*
 - French critic & sceptic, Renan

Unique Events Recorded

- Luke records
 - Over 20 miracles (6 unique)
 - 23 parables (18 unique)
- Four unique events:
 - The Nativity
 - Only Luke recounts the birth announcements of Gabriel to Zechariah and to Mary.
 - The good Samaritan
 - The rich man and Lazarus
 - The prodigal Son
 - Palm Sunday
 - The road to Emmaus

Luke – Chapter Division

- The Incarnation Ch 1-3
 - Two Angelic annunciations
 - Two elect mothers & Two anticipated births
- The Galilean Ministry Ch 4-9
 - Teachings, Miracles, 12 Sent out
- The Journey toward Jerusalem Ch 10-19
- The Heir Executed Ch 19-23
 - Presented riding a donkey
 - Passover, Gethsemane, Golgotha,
- The Risen Saviour Ch 24
 - The Post-Resurrection appearances
 - The Promise of the Holy Spirit

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The Gospel of Luke

a verse-by-verse study

CHAPTER 1

1 Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us,

2 Even as they delivered them unto us, which from the beginning were **eyewitnesses**, and **ministers** of the word;

Luke 1:1-2

- In his opening statement Luke shares something very significant...
- By the time Luke writes this account 'many' had already written down these events...
- Those who had done so were eyewitnesses!

Eyewitnesses & Ministers

Eyewitnesses

- Gr: **autoptes** (ow-top'-tai);
 - “one who has seen with their own eyes”

Ministers

- Gr: **huperetes** (hoop-ay-ret'-ace);
 - “Under-oarsman”, when used in a medical sense it means “an Intern”, “student”
- The accounts Luke refers to were written by ones who had seen these events with their own eyes, and had themselves been students of Jesus!

Eyewitnesses & Ministers

- Luke's sources
 - Mary
 - Apostles
 - Matthew & Mark (Gospels already written by this time)
- Acts 21 Luke met Philip
- Luke 8:3 Luke met Joanna, wife of Chuza
 - steward of Herod, and an eyewitness of many of the events subsequently recorded
- Luke would also have had access to John
- Luke travelled with Paul
 - Paul would himself have been an eyewitness of many events & may have been at Jesus' trial

3 It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, **most excellent Theophilus,**

4 That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed.

Luke 1:2-4

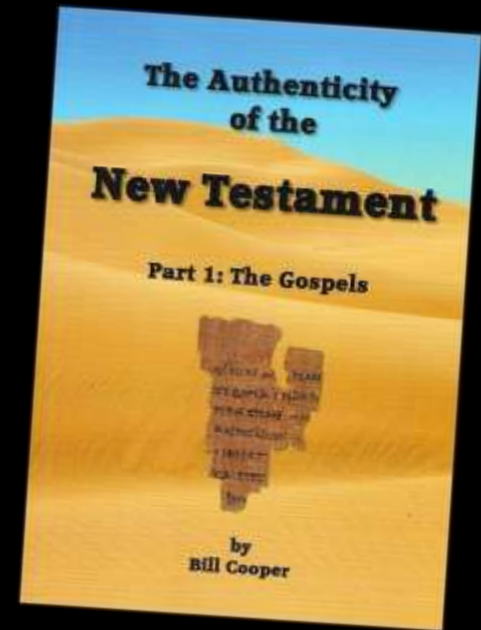
- Whilst Luke may well have drawn from these sources, he states that he himself had:
 - ‘perfect understanding’
 - of ‘all things’
 - from the ‘very first’
- This is evidenced by the things Luke records that the other Gospel writers omit.
- He writes that his reader may have certainty!

Theophilus

- The name means 'lover of God'
- Many have suggested this is a generic title and the Gospel is therefore addressed to 'all who love God'
 - The grammar doesn't allow for this
- Others suggest a Roman dignitary
 - The idea is put forward that this Gospel and Acts were trial documents that accompanied Paul on his trip to Rome following his appeal to Caesar
- Dr Bill Cooper sheds some light on the real identity of 'Theophilus'
 - And the use of the title Luke gives him here...

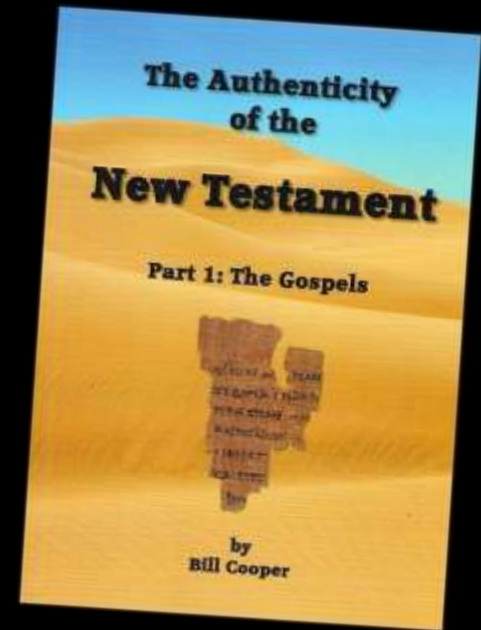
Theophilus

- *“As for the early writing of Luke's gospel, there is a great deal of evidence which indicates that it belongs firmly to the Eyewitness Period.*
- *Better still, it could be narrowed down to having been written within a window of time that does not exceed four years in breath.*
- *The man to whom Luke addresses his gospel tells us as much, and is someone whom Luke calls “... most excellent Theophilus” (1:3). Clearly this man was alive when Luke wrote his gospel, otherwise there'd be no point in addressing it to him. The questions we need to answer therefore are these: who was he? And when did he live?”*



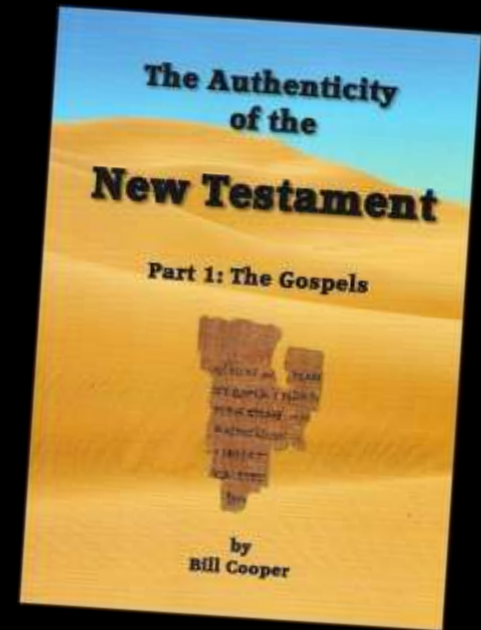
Theophilus

- *“The man was Theophilus Ben Ananus, an erstwhile Sadducee and priest of the temple. He was the son of Annas and brother-in-law of the High Priest Caiaphas at whose instigation our Lord was tried and crucified.*
- *Theophilus was himself to serve as High Priest from the years 37-41 and it is during this time as High Priest that Luke wrote his gospel and addressed it to him.*
- *We know this by the honorific title by which he addresses Theophilus: Most Excellent (Gr kratistos). the Greek word means ‘noble’, and it is used on just one other occasion in the New Testament, namely in Acts 23: 26, when it is applied to the Governor Felix”.*



Theophilus

- *“Tellingly, Luke also addresses his Book of Acts to Theophilus, but when he does so it is simply ‘to Theophilus...’.*
- *The honorific title is no longer used, because when Luke wrote his Book of Acts in AD 64, Theophilus’ service as High Priest was long since passed”.*



5 There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judaea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the course of Abia...

Luke 1:5a

- In 1 Chronicles 24:3-19 David divided the priests into 24 'courses' to minister in the Temple.
- Typically each course was grouped by families
- They would serve twice a year for a week at a time
- The '24' were representative of the whole priesthood
 - See Revelation Ch4-5 where the '24 Elders' are representative of the whole church
- The course of Abijah was the eighth of the 24
- This little detail tucked away in Luke's account allows us to pin-point the Birth of Christ!

5 There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judaea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the course of Abia: and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth.

6 And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.

7 And they had no child, because that Elisabeth was barren, and they both were now well stricken in years.

Luke 1:5-7

8 And it came to pass, that while he executed the priest's office before God in the order of his course,

9 According to the custom of the priest's office, his lot was to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord.

10 And the whole multitude of the people were praying without at the time of incense

Luke 1:8-10

11 And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense.

12 And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.

13 But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.

Luke 1:11-13

14 And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth.

15 For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb. (**Nazarite Vow: Numbers 6:2**)

16 And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God. (**'Prepare a way': Isaiah 40:3**)

17 And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord. **Luke 1:14-17**

(**'Elijah like herald': Malachi 4:5**)

18 And Zacharias said unto the angel, Whereby shall I know this? for I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years.

19 And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings.

20 And, behold, thou shalt be dumb, and not able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not my words, which shall be fulfilled in their season.

Luke 1:18-20

21 And the people waited for Zacharias, and marvelled that he tarried so long in the temple.

22 And when he came out, he could not speak unto them: and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple: for he beckoned unto them, and remained speechless.

23 And it came to pass, that, as soon as the days of his ministration were accomplished, he departed to his own house.

Luke 1:21-23

24 And after those days his wife Elisabeth conceived, and hid herself five months, saying,

25 Thus hath the Lord dealt with me in the days wherein he looked on me, to take away my reproach among men.

Luke 1:24-25

26 And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,
27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. (cf Isaiah 7:14)
28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.
29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be

Luke 1:26-29

30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.


31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus.

32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Luke 1:30-33

- These are some of the most important verses in the Bible in regard to understanding God's plan
 - They end the argument over amillennialism!
 - Jesus is coming back to rule and reign on this Earth!



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