

Celebrate

Easter

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Eyewitnesses of Life and Death and Life!

Luke 1 and Acts 1



*“If Christ is risen, nothing else matters.
And if Christ is not risen nothing else matters.”*



PASSION WEEK

- Sunday – Palm Sunday – Triumphal Entry
- Monday – Jesus cleanses Temple – Luke 19:46
- Tuesday – Mt Olives – preaching & prophecy
- Wednesday – Bethany? Preparing
- Thursday – Upper Room – Feet Washing – Last Supper – Judas departs – Gethsemane – Arrest!



PASSION WEEK

- Friday – Trials – Crown of Thorns – Crucifixion – 7 Sayings – Death – Tremors/Darkness – Burial
- Saturday – Tomb quiet
- Sunday Morning – Women visit – Stone Moved – Angel Attends – Peter & John – Emmaus – Upper Room (Last Supper – First Group – Pentecost)



LUKE 1:1 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.



What Happened? Luke 1

- Account (report by narrative)
- Eyewitnesses (optics)
- Investigated (on the road with)
- Write out in order (as we have it)
- Exact truth - ἀσφάλεια (secure, certain)



“No scene in sacred history ever gladdens the soul like the scene on Calvary. Nowhere does the soul find such consolation as on that very spot where misery reigned, where woe triumphed, where agony reached its climax.”

C.H. Spurgeon



ACTS 1:1 The first account I composed,
Theophilus, about all that Jesus began
to do and teach,



2 until the day when He was taken up to heaven, after He had by the Holy Spirit given orders to the apostles whom He had chosen.



3 To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God.



What Could Have Happened?

- From Teaching to Taken 1,2
- Presented Himself 3
- Convincing Proofs 3



What Could Have Happened?

- Swoon Theory - crucified but He got better
- Wrong Tomb – where did we put Him?
- Stolen Body – Romans? Pharisees? Apostles?
- Hallucination – Elvis sightings all over Israel!
- 12 Post Resurrection sightings – once by 500



***A LIVING FAITH COULD NOT
ENDURE A DEAD SAVIOR!***



1 Cor 15:16,17 For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.



18,19 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.



What Happens Now?

- No resurrection – Jesus did not rise
- No resurrection – faith in Christ worthless
- No resurrection – still in sin
- No resurrection – those gone before are gone
- No resurrection – most miserable!



“If the Lord's bearing our sin for us is not the gospel, I have no gospel to preach.”

C.H. Spurgeon



“The Lord has risen indeed!”

Luke 24:34



*Those who owe much at the Cross
owe nothing at the tomb!*



*“The heart of the gospel is redemption,
and the essence of redemption is the
substitutionary sacrifice of Christ.”*

C.H. Spurgeon



For God – THE GREATEST LOVE
so loved – THE GREATEST DEGREE
the world – THE GREATEST COMPANY
that He gave – THE GREATEST ACT
His only begotten Son – THE GREATEST GIFT
that whoever – THE GREATEST OPPORTUNITY
believes – THE GREATEST SIMPLICITY
in Him – THE GREATEST ATTRACTION
should not perish – THE GREATEST PROMISE
but have – THE GREATEST CERTAINTY
everlasting life – THE GREATEST POSSESSION



JOHN 3:16

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

For God so loved YOU,
that He gave YOU His only begotten Son,
that YOU may believe in Him
and YOU shall not perish,
but YOU will have eternal life.



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