

LUKE
KING/THRONE/REIGN

MATTHEW
SAVIOR/CROSS/SALVATION

AN ORDERLY ACCOUNT ...

1. factual
2. thorough
3. eyewitness reports
4. expert testimony
5. servants of the word
6. careful research
7. exact truth
8. reliable
9. authoritative
10. conclusive



LUKE'S GOSPEL

AN ORDERLY ACCOUNT OF THE
"GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING"

AN ORDERLY ACCOUNT OF THE THINGS ACCOMPLISHED AMONG THEM ...

- (Luke 1:1–4 ESV) Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, 2 just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, 3 it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, 4 that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

COMPILE A NARRATIVE—AN ORDERLY ACCOUNT

1. It was Luke's stated purpose to compile a narrative of the things accomplished among them; "the things" would be the prophecies fulfilled and the works of Jesus Christ and his apostles.
2. Luke has eyewitnesses of "the things" from the very beginning.
3. And not just any eyewitnesses but he has the expert testimony of servants of the word.
4. He would build his orderly account from careful research so that Theophilus could completely rely on an authoritative, conclusive account.

TWO MAIN THINGS WHICH WERE ACCOMPLISHED AMONG THEM

Overall the "things that have been accomplished among us" would include the fulfilled prophecies and the details of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ and his followers from the foretelling of the birth of his prophetic forerunner to the time of his birth and then all the through to Christ's ascension back to glory.

In today's study we will look mainly at the foretelling and births of the forerunner prophet—John the Baptist—and of our Lord Jesus Christ and some

of the accompanying prophecies, events and circumstances surrounding their births and lives.

1. THE FORETELLING AND THE BIRTH OF THE FORERUNNER PROPHET—JOHN THE BAPTIST, 1:5-25, 57-66, 67-80.

After Luke's stated purpose (1:1-4) he next gives an account of the foretelling of the birth of John the Baptist—the forerunner prophesied in Isaiah (1:5-25, Isaiah 40:3).

- (Isaiah 40:3 NLT) Listen! It's the voice of someone shouting, "Clear the way through the wilderness for the LORD! Make a straight highway through the wasteland for our God!"
- (Matthew 3:3 ESV) For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'"
- (Luke 1:76–79 ESV) **And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, 77 to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins, 78 because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high 79 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."**

2. THE FORETELLING AND THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST, 1:26-38, 2:1-7.

- (Luke 1:26–38 ESV) **In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. 28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" 29 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. 30 And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive**

in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” 34 And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?” 35 And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. 36 And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God.” 38 And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

- **“Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you” ...** (Luke 1:28–29 ESV) And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” 29 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be.

Note the similarities with Gideon when “the angel of the LORD” paid him a surprise visit.

- **“The LORD is with you, O mighty man of valor” ...** (Judges 6:11–12 ESV) Now the angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the winepress to hide it from the Midianites. 12 And the angel of the LORD appeared to him and said to him, “The LORD is with you, O mighty man of valor.”

COMMENTARY & QUESTIONS RAISED

■ **HOW DID MARY RECEIVE THE NEWS THAT SHE WOULD GIVE BIRTH TO JESUS CHRIST?**

1. The angel Gabriel was sent to Mary by God to make the announcement.
2. Mary was very troubled by the greeting of

the angel and struggled to understand what he meant by “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you.”

3. The angel tried to calm her by explaining that Mary had found favor with God so there was nothing to fear.

■ **WHAT WAS THE MESSAGE FROM GOD WHICH HE SENT BY THE ANGEL GABRIEL?**

1. Mary was going to be pregnant and would have a son, and she would name him Jesus.
2. Jesus would be great and would be called the Son of the Most High.
3. **He would be given the throne of David and would reign forever.**

■ **WHAT WAS MARY’S RESPONSE TO THE MESSAGE?**

1. Mary could not understand how she could become pregnant since she was a virgin.
2. The angel informed her that her pregnancy would be the work of the Holy Spirit by the power of the Most High.
3. And since this was the work of God the child would be called holy—the Son of God in fact.
4. Mary was also informed that her relative Elizabeth had conceived a son which also was a miracle as she was old and barren.
 - (Luke 1:7 ESV) But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years.
5. **Mary accepted her commissioning as a servant of the Lord and submitted to the word God had sent through the angel.**

PROPHETS & PROPHECIES IN LUKE

- (Luke 1:67–70 ESV) And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying, 68 “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people 69 and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, 70 as he spoke by the mouth

of his holy prophets from of old.

- (Luke 1:76–79 ESV) And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; **for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, 77 to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins,** 78 because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high 79 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.
- (Luke 4:16–19 ESV) And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. 17 And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, 18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”
- (Luke 6:22–23 ESV) Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! 23 Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.
- (Luke 7:15–16 ESV) And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. 16 Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has arisen among us!” and “God has visited his people!”
- (Luke 7:26–27 ESV) What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. **27 This is he of whom it is written, “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.”**
- (Luke 10:23–24 ESV) Then turning to the disciples he said privately, “Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! 24 For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see

what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.”

- (Luke 24:25–27 ESV) And he said to them, **“O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!** 26 Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” 27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.
- (Luke 24:44–48 ESV) Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” 45 **Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, 46 and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, 47 and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things.”**

■ **COMPARING THE “CHAPTER ONE” POINTS OF EMPHASIS OF MATTHEW & LUKE ...**

MATTHEW: SAVIOR/CROSS/SALVATION

- (Matthew 1:21 ESV) She will bear a son, **and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.**

LUKE: KING/THRONE/REIGN

- (Luke 1:31–32 ESV) And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, **and you shall call his name Jesus.** He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. **And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David.**