

WEEK 1:

THE GOSPEL FOR THE SKEPTICAL

PRIMARY SCRIPTURE:

Luke 1:1-4

RELATED SCRIPTURE:

Colossians 4:14; 2 Timothy 4:11, 16; Isaiah 1:17-18;
2 Timothy 3:7; 1 Peter 3:15; Matthew 22:37

I humbly add I have spent more than 42 years as a defense trial lawyer appearing in many parts of the world and am still in active practice. I have been fortunate to secure a number of successes in jury trials and I say unequivocally the evidence for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is so overwhelming that it compels acceptance by proof which leaves absolutely no room for doubt.

- Sir Lionel Luckhoo

PERSONAL STUDY:

Read Luke 1:1-4. What reasons does Luke give in these verses for why we should trust what he has to say about Jesus?

How do you think Luke would respond to the following statements:

- “Faith is just a blind leap. It’s just hoping something is true.”
- “The Bible is just fairy tales meant to be taken figuratively.”
- “Jesus was a teacher and guru who later became a legend and was turned into a deity by His followers.”
- “We should only believe what is testable and provable.”

Where do you stand in terms of “certainty concerning the things you have been taught” about Jesus and faith in what He taught and accomplished? What are the hardest things about Jesus’ teaching for you to believe? What are your biggest skepticisms? How do you respond when you are skeptical?

What factors (environmental, experiential, relational, logical or academic) have played into your faith and/or skepticism?

What are you hoping to learn and how are you hoping to grow through this study of Luke?

SERMON NOTES:



LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION:

In temperament, do you tend to be more skeptical or more naturally trusting? Where has skepticism played a role in your faith and/or doubt when it comes to Jesus?



If you are a Christian, how did you come to faith? If you aren't a Christian, what things present the biggest obstacles to you trusting Jesus and His teachings?

Our culture tends to treat religious thought as subjective and judge it based on the question, "Do I find this to be helpful?" Luke instead approaches Jesus' teaching as objectively true. What changes in how we approach Jesus if Luke is right? Where do you struggle to see the Bible and Jesus' teachings as objectively true? Why does it matter if Jesus' teachings are taken as objectively true or solely subjectively helpful?



In verse 1 Luke describes Jesus' life as "the things accomplished among us" or "the things fulfilled among us." What is he referring to here? What makes the gospel of Jesus unique among all teachings of religious teachers, political leaders and revolutionaries?

Where are you currently not believing the gospel of what Jesus has accomplished for us?

