The Heart of the Matter
Dr. Luke, Paul’s traveling companion, was probably the only Gentile writer of any part of the New Testament. His gospel focuses on providing a complete account of the life of Jesus. Certainly, none of the other three evangelists gave us a more detailed or descriptive analysis of the Savior’s birth, childhood, and manhood. The physician, writing to Greeks, revealed his own distinctiveness by (1) showing an uncommon interest in various individuals, (2) displaying an unusual emphasis on medical matters, (3) giving a prominent place to women in his account, and (4) emphasizing the humanity of our Lord during His earthly pilgrimage. As we might expect, the first-century physician was extremely careful in both his research and the documentation of his facts. Luke’s keen interest in Christ’s teachings provides us with a wealth of insight behind the scenes of Jesus’s many parables.

Discovering the Way
1. The Author and His Style
Meeting the physician-turned-author of this gospel, followed by an understanding of his approach to writing the work, provides a strong foundation from which we can approach this text.

2. The Gospel and Its Distinctives
With its emphasis on the humanity of Jesus, Luke’s gospel can be divided into four sections: the Son of Man announced and appearing, the Son of Man ministering and serving, the Son of Man instructing and submitting, and the Son of Man resurrected and commissioning.

Starting Your Journey
We are grateful for Luke’s gospel because it is a careful presentation of the facts, it is a realistic portrayal of humanity, it is a compassionate record of concern, and it is a faithful reminder of sacrifice.
# Luke

## The Son of Man

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Coming</th>
<th>Seeking</th>
<th>Saving</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Bethlehem, Nazareth, and Judea</td>
<td>Galilee</td>
<td>Judea and Perea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>About 30 years</td>
<td>1½ years</td>
<td>6 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theme</td>
<td>Jesus is the ideal Man, who comes to save all humankind — Jew and Gentile alike.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Verse</td>
<td>19:10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christ in Luke</td>
<td>Jesus is the perfect God-Man, who comes to offer salvation to all people (19:10).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Preface

- About 90 percent unique to Luke
- “Jesus the Nazarene... a prophet...”

## Announced and Appearing

- “...mighty in deed...”

## Ministering and Serving

- About 60 percent unique to Luke
- “...and word in the sight of God and all the people.” (24:19)

## Instructing and Submitting

- Chapters 9:51–23:56

## Resurrected and Commissioning

- Chapter 24

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